Facing 2015 - Highlight Of My Week

By Richard Leggett



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Long before "Selfies," I started a project of doing at least one photograph per day. Of course, my photography project had to change to keep it interesting. Who wants to see a lot of photographs of me? So now, I am more into photographic journeys with different themes.

So for 2015, I decided to do a theme on whatever was the highlight of the week. I hope you enjoy the journey.

During this photographic journey, I have realized just how blessed my life has become. Family and friends are the joys of my life. How lucky I am to have a family that loves to get together and just celebrate life as it is each and every day.

Thank you family and friends for making my life complete.

I love you all.





Facing 2015
"The Highlight Of My Week"
Photographs and/or Stories

Posting a photograph per day was intense. I have completed three years of daily photographs. So it's time to change speed and ideas.

My idea is to post one or more photographs each week with an extended caption that details

"The Highlight of My Week."

Cousins Robert and Mike, and I attended the 2015 CES (Consumer Electronics Show).

While there, I participated in the Nikon 360 Project.

Can't just very high, but you get the idea.

A 360 Photograph taken by 48 Nikon Cameras.

Glad I am not shy!



Richard, welcome to your Nikon 360° Project Dashboard.

You can view all of your photos here and choose which ones you want to share.

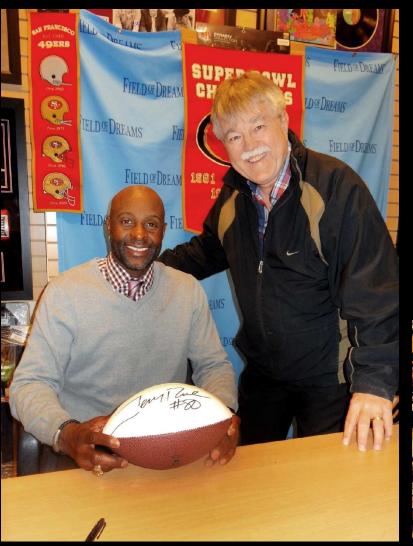


I just got captured by 48 Nikon D750 cameras in the *Nikon 360° Project* at CES 2015.

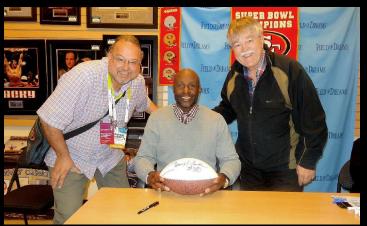
While Robert and I were at the CES, I saw a sign that indicated the Hall of Fame Receiver Jerry Rice was in town so Robert and I went to see him.

What an honor to meet my favorite all time football player. And an autographed football as well.

(January 9, 2015)







January 15, 2015
I received a call last week from a gentleman named Azim, he wanted to arrange a ceremony for his son and fiance. Little did I know at the time that both the groom and bride would travel 33 hours from Afghanistan to get to Salinas.

Their first stop was at the Salinas courthouse so I could preform the wedding ceremony.

Congrats to AmeenJohn and Nigina.
On record as the couple which traveled the farthest to stand in front of me to be pronounced "Man and Wife."

Nigina comes from a small village just north of Kabul. She has never traveled outside the village her entire life. Until now. She must be overwhelmed.



Talk about a busy week, I did 6 weddings. Three were on one day. So I guess "Love Is In The Air" for sure.

Venues included Berwick Park in Pacific Grove, Spanish Bay, Salinas Courtyard, The Clement Hotel on Cannery Row, Lover's Point, and a home in Salinas. The best was at the Clement. 175 guests and I received many compliments from guests and the bride and groom. I really enjoy doing weddings and it must show.



One of the finer things in life is enjoying a fantastic meal and very good wine with loved ones.

Cousins Angie and Richard, Jeanne and I enjoyed the Winemaker's Dinner

at IL Fornaio's in Carmel.

Before the dinner, we enjoyed a glass of wine and a Carmel style "Hawaiian Sunset" from the balcony where Richard and Angie were staying.

All this equals a wonderful evening. Truly a highlight of the week.







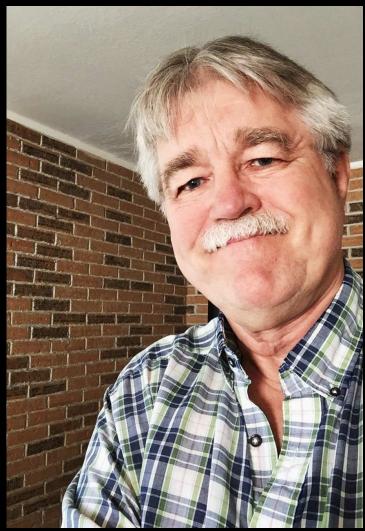
When you are in the process of selling your first home, many thoughts and memories enter your mind. Yes, to most of the family, it's a melancholy time and some sadness.

However, Jeanne and I remind them that though the home is full of memories, it's time to move on. So we decided to take a few last photographs. Jeanne and I are standing next to an area I built from the floor up. While I was attaching the pavers to the wall, I though about leaving our mark on the home for a long, long time. So I embedded an "L" in the pattern which is the initial of our last name. It will probably be there long after we are gone. Maybe only we will notice it, but we will always know it's there.

Will the house be sold? Time will tell.
We will keep you updated. We owned this house
for over 40 years! But as they say,
"It's not done until it's done." Still negotiating.







If you know me, you know I love to BBQ and it's a celebration for me each time I fire up the grill. Nothing beats BBQ in the backyard with a glass of my beverage and listening to a backyard full of music. Heavenly. This week, I was able to do some BBQ for our dear cousins from Washington, Al and Pat Petri. It's always wonderful to have relatives join us at our home for a night of food, wine, and conversation. Joining us was John (Jeanne's brother), Richelle and Wes. Here's to many more wonderful days. And I cannot forget the Madonna Del Sasso Valentine's Day Dinner Dance.



Saturday, February 14, 2015
No Host Cocktails 5 to 6 p.m.
Dinner 6 p.m.

Madonna Del Sasso Cross Hall
320 E Laurel Dr.
Live Music by "Nu-Horizon"
21+ Event

Feb 14, 2015
Dinner 6 p.m.

RETAIN
STUB FOR
DRAWING
245



The highlight of this week was easy to select. My 65th birthday. The best present was having family around me.

And to commemorate this day, we did a blind wine tasting of Boekenoogen Pinot Noirs.

2011, 2013, 2013 Three Clone.

Followed that with the celebrated opening of a bottle of Remy Louis XIII Cognac (over 80 years old).









Many highlights this week. After last week's birthday, I couldn't imagine back-to-back "biggies." Started off with another wonderful wine maker's dinner at iL Fornaio with cousins Rich and Angie. Check out the menu, awesome. Looked at some art along the way and modified it with my creativity. Thanks to photo shop. I preformed a wedding ceremony at Pasadera Country Club. I took a photograph of the room with chairs and window, I guess I still have some eye for composition.

On a sad note, we lost Leonard Nimoy this week. He brought so much joy to so many people. There will never be another "Spock" like him. RIP Leonard, we will miss you.









No doubt, the highlight of my week centered around visiting my son David and Paula in Sacramento this weekend. Started out doing a night of BBQ and sipping different wines. The next day, we visited an antique center, purchased an antique light fixture, enjoying an outside breakfast at one Sacramento's best places to eat breakfast. Then off to Apple country to pick up my wine order. While there, we visited three wineries. Two of which I have visited before and a wine club member of one, Crystal Basin Cellars. We then had dinner at the Cheesecake Factory. Arrived home on Monday afternoon and the phone was ringing frequently. Booked two weddings and got a call from the Title company, the check for the Sale of our previous home arrived. After 40 years of ownership, the sale of our Lupin house was over. The last two photographs was of me leaving American Title Company with closing documents and a fat check. Every week sure has had it's moments to remember.











The biggest highlight of the week was celebrating my grand daughter's 4th birthday. Isobel, Ronan, Jennifer, Steve, Jeanne and I had dinner at the Wharf in Monterey. On the right, Bella says "YES" to a great day. Jeanne looks at Bella as Jennifer takes a photograph.

Bella continues the family tradition of "Salute."

Took Steve's suggestion and enjoyed my first Bacon Chipotle Bloody Mary. Yum.

On Monday, I received a free hamburger at Johnny's Rockets on Cannery Row in Monterey.

And lastly, preformed a wedding in at M-1 at SVSP. (ask me).









Building a new Weber S330 BBQ

Time was right for a new gas grill. Richelle got me a great deal, so I could not turn it down.

So from box to finish grill took about 90 minutes.

And it works great!

First meal, rosemary-garlic steaks. Yum. I can see a whole summer of fun coming up.





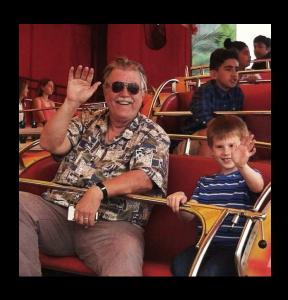




This week started out with another wine makers dinner at iL Fornaio with Rich, Angie, Jeanne, Jennifer, and I. Above is Chalone wine maker Robert Cook and iL Fornaio Manager, Matt Whitney.

Our grandson Ronan was on Spring break so we decided to take him to the Santa Cruz Beach and Boardwalk. With a little encouragement to get started on the rides, he mastered the day by riding on many rides. A lot of them he wanted to go on alone. Some rides he wanted us to share with him. By the look on his face, the boat ride was "boring." But all the rest of the rides he loved. Many rides he had to do at least three times. The two I rides I joined him on were super fast. And he was amazed how I got the, what I used to know as Tilt A Whirl, to spin really fast (was one of my favorites when I was young). Of course, we had hamburgers, French fries, Hot Dogs, and Cotton Candy. It was a day full of fun and memories.

Of course it had to be the "Highlight Of My Week."









Highlight of this week is this photograph. A family portrait at Richard and Angie's annual Family Easter Egg Hunt. This photograph is part of the tradition. Quick take the photograph before the sugar highs, full tummies, and the wine kicks in.

Thank you Richard and Angie for hosting this wonderful event.















Absolutely...... The biggest highlight of my week was the start of Season 5
Game of Thrones.

This week seemed to be filled with castles, landscapes, jails, and prisons. Not only on Game of Thrones, but in my life as an officiant. I helped a couple get married in the County Jail. I preformed two weddings at the Salinas Valley State Prison.



I could not help but get tears in my eyes for this very special highlight of my week.

My son David proposed to Paula on Sunday April 19th.

He sent some photos and a video someone captured.

Love is in the air, and I love them both.

And another highlight was the 25th wedding anniversary of our cousins,
Angie and Richard Raggio.
Congrats to you both.











What a week !!! So many highlights !!!
Started off Friday morning with doing a wedding at the
Monterey County Jail. Then a quick trip to Carmel to pick up
cousins Richard and Angie to celebrate their 25th wedding
anniversary. Did so by a day of wine tasting in Carmel Valley
followed by dinner at Vesuvio in Carmel. We started off at
Boekenoogen (my favorite), followed by lunch at Rustico, then
the Twisted Root winery. Went across the street to Cowgirl
winery and the well known Talbot Winery.

Saturday was a day with the grand children. Ronan photo bombed Jennifer and I in a "salute" photo. Sunday Jeanne and I traveled to Oakland to see the Moody Blues, long time favorite of mine. I was able to get an autographed poster by the group. They preformed all my favorites including "Tuesday Afternoon," "I Know You're Out There Somewhere," and the famous "Nights In White Satin."

Thank you Angie for some of the photographs posted this week.











Can't help but choose having a glass of La Vita with Joe, the Bargetto Barrister, as the highlight of my week. Why? So busy with a lot of weddings, big and small, over the weekend. Started off with a medium size wedding in Salinas on Saturday. Congrats to Jesus and Sophia. Later that day, I was in Monterey for a very large wedding. Over 225 guests at the Monterey Clement on Cannery Row. Thankfully, I was spot on with the vows. Congrats to Kristin and Peter. After that wedding, I headed over to Pacific Grove to do a very small and intimate wedding ceremony at Lover's Point. Only one guest, the bride's son. Same vows, go figure. Very lovely and touching as well. Congrats to Barbara and Brian. The next day, Jeanne and I traveled to San Juan Bautista. I preformed a remarriage ceremony for a couple I had preformed last October. This time over 110 guests enjoyed the ceremony. All four weddings unique in their ways. All special ceremonies. The glass of La Vita was a moment of relaxation in an otherwise hectic weekend.

Oh by the way, the wine was excellent.







Of course, Mother's Day has to be the highlight of my week. The members of our family that could get together, did. We had a wonderful brunch at the Hyatt in Monterey. Fantastic! Many reasons why this particular day was special, it just was. After the brunch, Jeanne, Dave, and I ventured to the Boekenoogen Tasting Room to pick up our wine club distribution. We were pleased to see the owner, John Boekenoogen at the tasting room. David and I

Finally, RAIN? Wow, haven't seen rain for such a long time, I almost forgot what it feels like.

tried the brand new Cab. The first Cabernet John has created. Very good nectar of the gods.











Highlights of the week includes celebrating my youngest daughter's Birthday tonight.

Today is her birthday (May 20th)

Happy Birthday Richelle

More highlights. I did my first rotisserie roast on my new BBQ this week. I followed the golden rule of BBQ for large cuts.... "Low and Slow" and it turned out great! The next day, I did a wedding at the Carmel City Beach. Afterwards, Jeanne and I explored the Carmel Barnyard for a place to have lunch. We found this nice swiss bistro. I had Swiss Onion Soup and 1/2 salad. Soooo Good.











Celebrating Richelle's
birthday at Gino's
A family tradition, getting together to celebrate birthdays.
Jeanne, Richelle, Wes, and I having a nice dinner.

Our daughter Jennifer and son in law Steve bought a fantastic new home. To help, we had the grandchildren over. And lucky Ronan got to spend two nights with us. His first sleep over at our home. Ronan and I had tons of fun.... as you can see by the photographs. We made funny photos with some software.

Ronan saw lots of movies, and played a lot of games. Isobel, had tummy problems so she didn't spend the night. I know Ronan will want to stay again another time. He makes being a grand parent fun.









Backyard BBQ time at Dave and Paula's home. From left to right.
Rich, Jeanne, Paula, and David

Two events are worthy of "My Highlights of the Week." First, a trip to Sacramento to see my son David and his fiance Paula. While there, we celebrated Jeanne's birthday. It's not polite to tell the age of a lady so I wont. Second. We are celebrating our 43rd Anniversary! As a tradition, on this day, I give Jeanne one red rose for every year we have been married and a single rose of a different color for the year to come. Yes, it's getting pricey, but she's worth it, and it's a great tradition. Jeanne counts this day as historic. We have passed her parents and her grandparents in the number of anniversaries they have celebrated.













Enjoy each moment. Many special moments this week. First, Jeanne and I celebrated our 43rd Anniversary at the Chart House. They did a fantastic job. The evening was so special. Then on Friday, Jeanne and I went to Ronan's school. Ronan received a class award for writing. We celebrated at lunch at Wharf #1. A few photo ops, Ronan with his mom and dad, Jennifer and Steve. Then with Jeanne and I. Also a photograph of Ronan after he received the award at the school assembly. A special surprise birthday party for Jeanne. A luau theme at the Kula Ranch. At the party, lots of family, a uke player, a clown, and good food. Jeanne was so surprised. What a wonderful day.

Happy Birthday Jeanne.









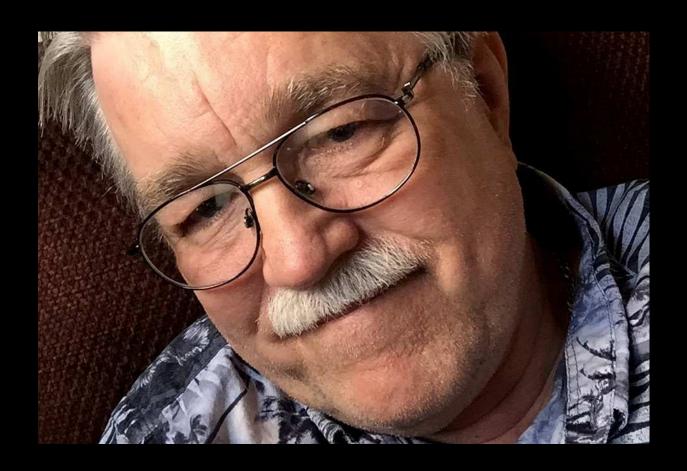






Not every highlight is a happy one, And this week marks one for sure. My sister's father, aka my step father, passed away early on Monday morning. A long story, but in short, we didn't meet Charlie until our mother passed away. But we were able to share some special moments with him during our much too short time together. Rest In Peace Charlie, you will be missed.

There were some positive highlights this week. The first weekend our grand children stayed with Jeanne and I. Still wondering where Bella gets all her energy. These photographs were taken right before Sunday morning breakfast.









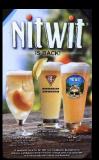
Started off the week with one of my favorite things to do, the wine maker's dinner at IL

Fornaio Restaurant in Carmel with cousins Richard and Angie. Antinori Estates was the featured wine (Oldest wine makers in Italy). The guest speaker was Kari Moore. As a main course, we all had Scalopine Salernitana (Veal). Yum Certainly was a highlight of my week. Saturday evening, my son David sent me a photo giving me an early Father's Day Salute. I returned the gesture. Sunday morning, Father's Day, Jeanne made me a giant mimosa, wow! Went to dinner at BJ's in Salinas with Jeanne, Jen, Steve, Ronan, Bella, Richelle, and Wes. Tried two different beers. Nitwit in memory of my late Father-inlaw, Tony, who always used the phrase "Nitwit" when talking about dumb people.











Celebrating my 500th with a nice wine given to me from my son David for my recent birthday.

Have to say, preforming my 500th wedding ceremony has to be considered my highlight of the week.

On Saturday morning at the Salinas Valley Sate Prison, I preformed my 500th ceremony.

Consider this:

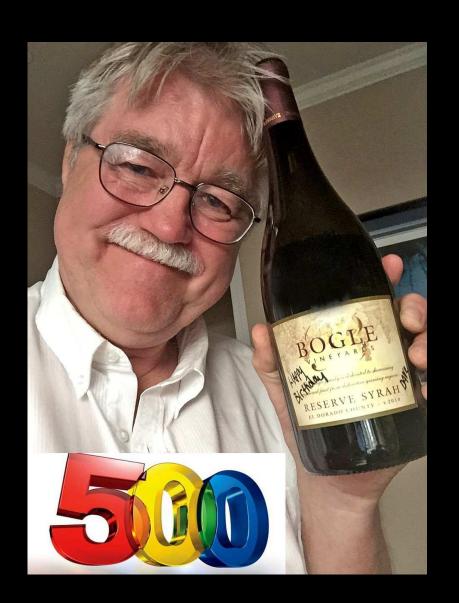
48 weddings Salinas Valley Sate Prison.

5 weddings at the Monterey County Jail.

458 regular weddings.

Grand total 506 weddings.

I love what I do, it's fun and it pays me!



The highlight of my week.
Our whole family spending the
Independence Day 4th of July holiday
together.

I can't think of a better 4th in my life!





The highlights of this week is memories and achievements. Already 2 weeks since Jeanne and I stood on the porch of the house we rented for our family 4th of July get together. One fantastic family time. I will always remember. In the same light, the NFL lost a great quarterback, Ken Stabler. He was always one of my favorites for many reasons. I will always cherish my trips to see him play in Oakland. But more than that, it was a time when I grew very close to my father in law, Tony Petri. Tony and I went to many Oakland Raider games together and we were there for many historic moments. When Oakland broke the Miami winning streak, and one of the best games I ever saw, Oakland beats the Baltimore Colts 28-26. Ken Stabler was being tackled and as he started to fall, he threw a side armed pass to Anthony Davis in the end zone with moments left in the game to a stunning victory. Strange as it seems, both my father in law and Ken Stabler cause of death was colon cancer. Both around the same age. I will fondly remember both as long as I live. RIP Ken Stabler, you will be missed.







The highlight of the week was spending the day wine tasting in Carmel Valley with Jeanne, my daughter Jennifer, and Jennifer's friend, Monique.

Started at the Rustic Restaurant for some yummy lunch. Tummies full, on to the wine tasting. First was the Cowgirl Winery Tasting Room which is very unique. Second stop was Talbott. Since I am a club member there, the tasting was free for all of us. Not one bad wine there. Then on to the family favorite, Boekenoogen Wines! GREAT WINES always. Both Jennifer and Monique joined as members. Tried the new release of Garret's Garden Pinot. Wow. Had to buy some of that. Finished the day at Joyce. It was fun and one wine was good enough for me to purchase a couple of bottles.

The weather was perfect, the food and wine were so wonderful. Certainly a highlight for sure.











Sometimes the highlight of the week can be something simple like having the grandchildren over for an overnight stay. Or simply enjoying a meal at Buffalo Wings. what's your level of heat? Follow that up with a Monday morning wedding, number 519! And finally, buying some new luggage for a family reunion trip, leaving on Tuesday (The reason for an early posting of this week). Tuesday we travel to South Dakota, then on to Iowa for the annual Stutt Family Reunion. Watch out cuz Jane, we are coming your way.

<<< Big Smiles Of Course >>>







Jeanne and I decided to go back to Iowa for another family reunion. But we also decided to add a side trip to the Black Hills of South Dakota to see Mount Rushmore, Crazy Horse, the Needle Highway, Sturgis, Deadwood wine tasting in Hill City, and much more. South Dakota is awesome. Much like Pearl Harbor, Mount Rushmore and Crazy Horse are a must visit in your lifetime. I shot over 500 photographs during our visit to South Dakota and Iowa, it would be impossible to post them all here, but here is just a tiny sample of our visit.













COCK PPERIOWA





Boekenoogen Wine Club Appreciation BBQ and Wine Tasting at their Santa Lucia Vineyards.

Renata, Jennifer, Jeanne, and I are ready for the BBQ.

The day was absolutely wonderful.

We are standing in front of some Pinot grape vines.

Next to me is my lovely wife Jeanne, my daughter Jennifer, and Jen's good friend, Renata.

















There were many highlights over the last week. First was having dinner with special friends Tom and Donna Parmeson. I met them a few years ago when I was honored to officiate their renewal of vows on Carmel Beach. We have been friends since. Nice seeing them again. Next time, I think we will have to visit them in Houston. Salute

Tom and Donna.

Our next highlight was taking a Wine Tasting Sunset Sail on the Chardonnay 2 out of Santa Cruz on the Monterey Bay. It was a gift from our daughter Jennifer. Thank you Jen, it was awesome.







Highlight of the week was a wonderful backyard BBQ with family. Daughter Jennifer, grand daughter Bella, brother John, Jeanne and I ready for the food. John brought some homemade sausage, it was awesome. I BBQ'd Rib Steaks! Jeanne made broccoli salad, ravioli, and garlic bread. And the wine flowed! Bella was sharing love,. John and I were sitting on my Candlestick Stadium seats admiring the homemade sausage. YUM. Shrimp cocktail? Bella was also sharing stories at the table.









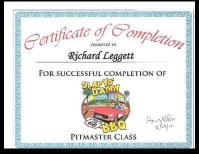


Dave and I pose with Harry's fiance Donna, a master BBQ competitor as well. A photo of "PART" of the lunch. We BBQ'd the meat, we ate it. YUM!!!!

No doubt, the highlight of the week was going to the Slap Yo' Daddy Pitmaster BBQ Class 101 with my son Dave. Above we are photographed with Harry Soo, a world famous BBQ Pitmaster Champion. It was an amazing class. Both Dave and I hope to start mastering some of the techniques we learned.

As Harry would say, give love, and BBQ.

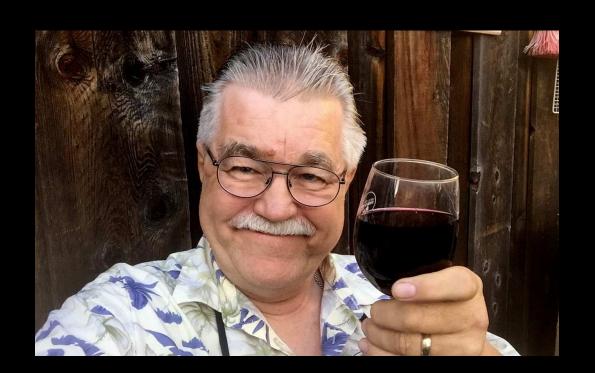








Three special moments this week. First, another wedding at the Monterey Clement Hotel. Over 115 guests. The bride and groom were so nice, so special, and the ceremony was another "out of the park" performance! Congrats to Paul and Cathy. My 526th wedding. The next two were doing homework from the BBQ class. Chicken one night, short ribs on another night. Both were very good, but the ribs were awesome. Thanks Harry Soo for a great class.

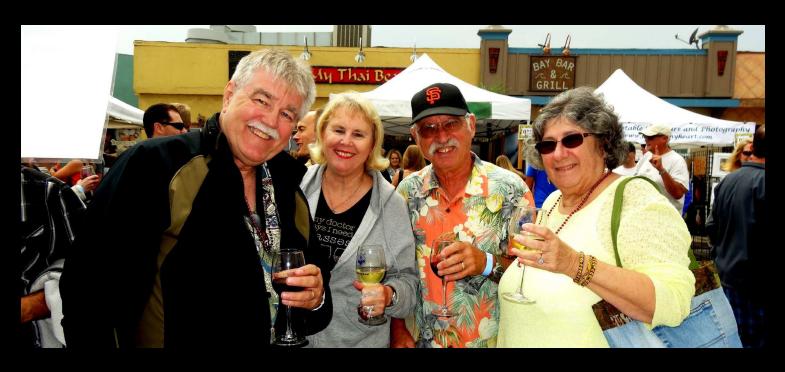








Another highlight filled week! Two in one day I will call back from the past. Did a wedding on Sunday and I met a former jr. high school/high school friend, we had a great talk about our past. Then a fantastic visit from another friend from the past, this time a former fellow Safeway employee, Craig Turner. He and his wife Michelle are back in California so we have to stay in touch. Thanks for the photographs, Craig. Visited the heart doctor. Lost 5 pounds! Heart and lungs sound super healthy. A week of "twos!" Special events for both my daughters. My daughter Richelle and her husband Wes are expecting their first little one. My daughter celebrating her birthday. A blast from the past photo of Jen and friend while visiting Alaska some years back. Congrats to Richelle and We Happy Birthday Jen. "Two events." Jeanne and I did some Talbott Wine tasting, and then headed to Monterey for the Italian Festival."Two clowns, two glasses of wine." My son Dave and I exchange goofy looks, but great wine, via smart phones."Two cousins, two couples" Jeanne and I join cousins Richard and Angie at the Capitola Art and Wine Festival. Great time!



















Stacked high, Highlight Of The Week. Last Friday was National Cheeseburger Day, so Jeanne changed the dinner menu at the last minute so we could celebrate with the right food. Though I wished I could eat mountain high cheeseburgers, I just can't anymore. The cheeseburger I had was great! Sunday night the first episode of the last season of Downton Abbey started in the UK. If the final season will be as good as the first episode, we are in for a very special series finale. I also did a wedding on Friday night. It was special. The bride is the sister to someone I did a wedding for 6 months ago to the day. Repeat business is a double blessing, congrats Frank and Ada. Another highlight of the week was the backyard projects I finished to give the backyard a more pleasing look. Put up some new fence boards, and Jeanne did some very nice decorations and arrangements.

Looks great Jeanne, THANK YOU.

Meanwhile, I took an idea from my brother in law, John. I sealed and painted the Candlestick Seats base with gray. Added sand to it to make it look like concrete/cement. Then mounted the Candlestick Park Seats commemorative sign at the base. Thanks for the idea John.







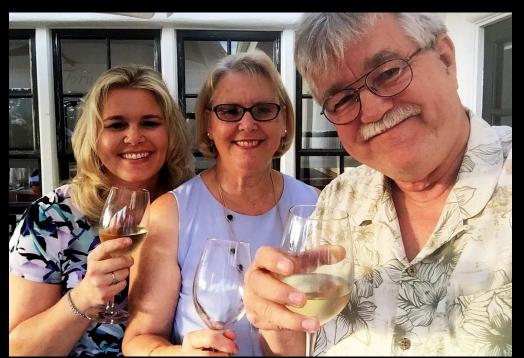


Continuing Jennifer's birthday celebration at the winemaker's dinner at iL Fornaio.

What a wonderful evening.

Great food, and very nice wine.

Continuing David's birthday celebration at Apple Hill. Cider and Wine Tasting at the Cave. David's birthday dinner was at Maggiano's. The evening complete with a super moon eclipse.





Highlight of the week can only be the Boekenoogen VIP BBQ at the Boekenoogen Bell Ranch, home of Petite Syrah, Chard, Cab, and more. Saturday October 3, 2015

Photo above from left to right, Monique's Daughter Gennelle, Monique, Jeanne, Dena, my daughter Jennifer, and me.

Without a doubt, the very best wine club. All this wine, food, music, wine glass, and tours were given to VIP club member (18 bottle per year purchase) for free, by the generosity of John Boekenoogen and family!

Dena, Jennifer and I greet John Boekenoogen, owner. Greeted by Garret Boekenoogen, John's son and the winemaker of the best wine ever.

Fantastic BBQ, the best wine ever, and the Boekenoogen Family.









The highlights of my week has to be themed Old and New.

First and most important, new life, old talents. I had to dust off my pro camera equipment to take some very important photographs of my daughter Richelle, son in law Wes, and the new life being added to our family. I hope I did an okay job.

Another old and new. Jeanne and I went on a new to us cruise line, the Disney Wonder. When we arrived at the port, we saw our old friend the Crown Princess which we have previously have spent a lot of cruise time on. 38 total days from Europe to both sides of the Caribbean.

We hope to cruise on the Crown again.















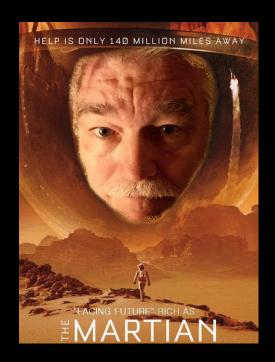


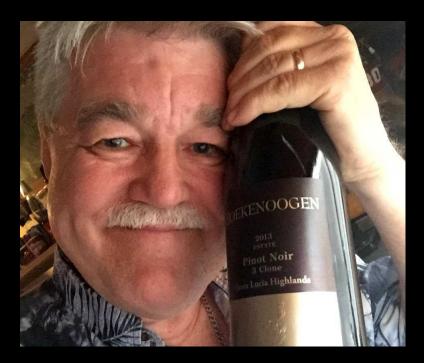


After such a busy week last week, what can compare. Three out of my four sports teams lost. But I did finish the audio book The Martian and I did five weddings in five days. But after a eight day fast from any wine, maybe the highlight of my week was enjoying a few glasses of one of my favorite Pinot Noirs. As I fast approach 550 weddings I am also fast approaching the biggest year yet for weddings. I only need three more bookings to pass my best year as Bayview Officiants.

Five Weddings. Congrats to:

Noe Leticia and Noe Anthony and Olivia (SVSP) Carrissa and Mario Karina and Jason, and Pacita and Ian.









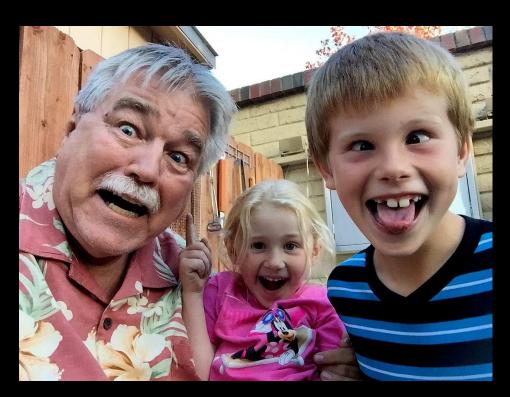






Many "Booooo ti full" highlights this week. Started with a visit to Capitola for lunch (without the crowds). Had lunch at the Sand Bar, then on to Bargetto in Soquel to pick up some wine. While at Bargetto's Winery, we did some wine tasting (wow is that a new tasting glass?).

Then USC beat Utah (top 5 ranking). On Sunday Ronan and Isobel came for a visit. We had fun preparing for Halloween

















USC Trojans football Festal saw F

Near and far, our family shares our Halloween night.

Jeanne, Richelle, Wes, Neighbor Dave, Friends of Richelle and Wes, and I do a spooky set up in Salinas.

Grandchildren Ronan, Isobel, and their friends share Halloween in Monterey.

David, Paula and Dexter celebrate Halloween in Sacramento.

We keep in touch, and I repeat, I am blessed with such a wonderful family.

My "Boooooo ti full" Highlight Of The Week.













Just when you think you will be having an uneventful week with no highlights, out of nowhere, highlights come. Perhaps it's all in making things a highlight. Perhaps the best highlight of the week was Jeanne and I being invited to a birthday dinner for our cousin Robert (55 years old).

HAPPY BIRTHDAY ROBERT!

Dinner included cousin Michael, Uncle Joe, and some very special friends. Next to me was dear friend Larry. Larry is a master photographer. Our friendship started when I was a photographer for Dolly and Bob's Studio. When I left to pursue a Safeway manger position, Larry was hired to replace me. Larry continued on in photography to be one of Monterey's finest photographer. Funny thing, one master photographer (Larry), one somewhat advanced photographer (me) doing a "selfie with a cell phone." Talk about crazy and funny. Still laughing about that one.

Other highlights this week included: Jeanne and I did a movie and a lunch date. We saw the new James Bond movie Spectre. Another special highlight was lunch in Carmel Valley and picking up my Boekenoogen Wine shipment. We also bought some area olive oil. And finally, still feeling the afterglow of the BBQ class my son and I attended. I did some Harry Soo BBQ chicken and BBQ cheese stuffed, bacon wrapped, peppers. Capped off the BBQ with my very favorite Pinot Noir ever. The 2011 Boekenoogen Pinot Noir.

One for the road, literally. Using the Safeway gas program, for the first time in 20 years, I paid only \$1.85 per gallon for regular gas.











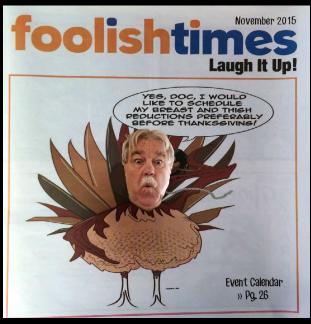
Highlight of the week was Jeanne and I getting together with cousins Richard and Angie, and daughter Richelle to attend the Harvest Festival in San Mateo.

Lots to see, lots to buy.

Another highlight was having a nice breakfast with Jeanne at the First Awakenings. While there, I spotted a circular, had a great caption which gave me a laugh. I green screened it to make it a little more humorous. And another green screen shot to celebrate Harvest Time.

Lastly, WOW, 7 inch bacon wrapped stuffed chilies on the BBQ. YUM.











Another week of highlights. Certainly a tree full of weddings was an accumulative highlight. I am well on my way to having a banner year for weddings.

On Sunday, Jeanne and I went to Carmel Valley to the Talbot winery to pick up my quarterly wine club shipment. Of course, we had to do a little wine tasting.

When we got back to Salinas, we had lunch at Cozumel's, we like that place. I had artichoke spinach enchiladas with beans. Our table was under a crazy parrot having a Corona.

Go figure.

Truly a day in paradise.













A very quiet Thanksgiving, the bird wouldn't cooperate. But a nice time anyway. USC beats UCLA so thankful for that too. All the Christmas decorations are up. My shopping is pretty much done. Time to enjoy the season.

Busy week, the beginning of the Christmas Season. Outside light, UP. Tree, UP. Tree lights, ON. New Christmas aloha shirt, ON. Jeanne did the biggest part, decorating the inside of the house.

Very close to that was a prisoner singing his vows to his bride this week at SVSP. Very emotional. He is from Tonga, bride from Figi, some family from New Zealand. Tofa and Aloha.









Three highlights for this week. First and most likely the most important. I applied for social security online. If everything goes okay, I should get my first social security deposit on February 1st, 2016.

The second was preforming my 150th wedding of this year! Absolutely the biggest year so far. With the bookings I have left, I will be over 155 for the year and a grand total of 569 weddings since I started preforming wedding ceremonies. There is a link between the two events. After my busiest year, I am thinking of leaving this work behind after my son's wedding in August 2016.

Though the wedding business has given me some pocket money after expenses, the social security payments will go above and beyond what I get now, so it may be time to move on to more traveling and who knows what.

Finally the third is a simple, but sweet, highlight. Though miles apart, thanks to the internet and smart phones, we can still give family a "salute" to celebrate the season.











So busy this week getting things ready for Christmas. Felt like being an elf on the shelf. Mail out the cards Jeanne put together, go to Colma and San Carlos for our annual visits. I I did three weddings at SVSP.

But the highlight of the week goes to Ronan's School Christmas program. Ronan is improving so much and as a special treat, his dad played guitar for the song Ronan's class sang. The Christmas program overall, was one of the best we have been to in years.

Second highlight of the week. I finally finished a photograph album book about Jeanne and my trip to China. If you would like to see those highlights, click on the group photo or our tour group. The title of the book is "Two Weeks In China"











To our family and friends, no matter where you are, you are in our hearts and thoughts this Christmas.

Christmas is so much more than Santa's, It is a time for families to get together and realize how much we love each other and to share that love.

So from our family to yours,

Have a very Merry Christmas,

and best wishes for a Happy New Years.

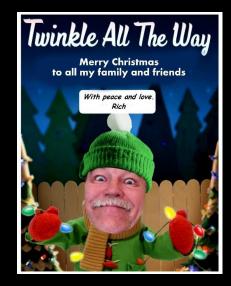
Rich, Jeanne, Jennifer, Steve, Ronan, Isobel David, Paula, Dexter, Richelle, Wes (and one on the way).













This week's highlight was so easy to choose. I am actually posting it days early because I can't imagine a more special day.

What more can anyone ask then to be with family on Christmas Eve.

Though many family members are in many different places, the family we gathered brings them all together in spirit.

I hope everyone had as wonderful a Christmas as our family enjoyed.

> Merry Christmas and Happy New Years.

Good bye 2015. Hello 2016













