



Mr. and Mrs. Gregory Yackel

Ash, Yackel Wed In Cozumel

Savannah Chasity Ash and Gregory James Colby Yackel were united in marriage at 5:30 p.m., June 7, 2008. The sunset ceremony took place at the Occidental Grand in Cozumel, Mexico. Kenneth Larsen performed the double ring ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of Teddy and Sandy Ash of El Campo.

Parents of the groom are Gregory and Melody Yackel of Louise.

The bride is the granddaughter of Nell Stovall of Columbus and the late Wilburn Ash and Archie and Dorothy Noska of Eagle Lake. Paternal great-grandparents are the late Ted Ash of Desdemona the late Pete Dillard and Ruby Crosby Ash Dillard of De Leon, the late Joe Stovall of Albany, and the late Maurine Bradford Stovall Dye of Albany and Merel Dye of Albany.

Maternal great-grandparents are the late William Noska, Sr. and Elnora Zajicek Noska of Frelsburg and the late Robert Lincoln Baird, Sr. and Allie Willtrout Baird of Mc Dow.

The groom is the grandson of Ruthella Yackel of Louise and the late Jesse Yackel and Sylvia Roddy of El Campo and the late Sam Roddy. Paternal great-grandparents are the late Jessie and Verna Lou Yackel and the late Walter and Ella Roome. Maternal great-grandparents are the late Allen and Estella Reese Morton and the late Rob and Emma Roddy.

The ceremony, which was held on a private beach, included a satin runner with pink and red rose petals that led the bride up to a floral arch accented with lilies, daisies, roses, greenery, ribbons and bows and tiki torches. Guests were seated in satin-covered chairs decorated with satin bows.

Following the ceremony, the minister read poems chosen by the bride. He then performed the sand ceremony, a symbolic event in which family and friends were participants. Using sand in the bride's chosen colors of claret red and baby pink, the bride and groom partially poured the sand into one container.

The remaining portions were passed to family and friends who also poured sand into the single vase.

Musical selections were "Pachelbel's", "Canon in D", for

Kretzschmar Family Tours WWII Battlefields

On July 8, Henry and Lucille Kretzschmar, Sr. along with their son and daughter-in-law, Henry and Loretta Kretzschmar and son-in-law, Kathy and Daniel Viktorin of East Bernard departed the United States for a 10 day tour of Europe. Henry Sr. wanted his family to see where he fought in World War II.

From Houston, they flew to Newark, New Jersey where they met up with their tour guide and the other 42 members of the tour. There they boarded their transatlantic flight to Paris, France. There were several World War II veterans on this tour, five of these including Kretzschmar who fought in the Battle of the Bulge. They traveled over 1,500 miles

by motorcoach with their tour guide, Fredric Rothschild. They visited the countries of France, Luxembourg, Belgium, Normandy and Germany. Some of the highlights of the trip were the Eiffel Tower, the beaches of Normandy (Omaha Beach being the one Henry arrived on), Notre Dame Cathedral, Ste-Mere-Eglise, Chateau-Thierry, Rheims where Eisenhower's headquarters were and where the Peace Treaty was signed, Notre-Dame de Reims Cathedral, Verdun, the American Cemetery in Luxembourg City where General Patton is buried, the Mardasson Monument and Museum near Bastogne, the Rhine River, and many more cemeteries and cathedrals.

In Aachen, Germany, Henry Mignon, a special step-on guide, took them through the area where the Battle of the Bulge took place.

This guide was eight years old during the war. His father was killed in this war. This is also the battle Henry, Sr. was in, during the midst of winter where his

feet were frozen. They traveled to Hollerath, known as Purple Heart Corner into Ardennes forest where they were able to walk in the foxholes and see the "Dragon's Teeth".

They departed from Frankfurt, Germany on July 17 for the long flights home. It was a very memorable trip for all of them.



Views Around The Lake by Cindy Klopsteck

"The really happy man is one who can enjoy the scenery of a detour."

— Anonymous
A detour on the physical asphalt roadway or on life's challenging roadway can be either a hurdle or a God-send.

I'm sitting in a line of cars, trucks and 18-wheelers on 90A, near Lissie. The road has been under construction for over a week now and regular commuters like myself have been trying daily to practice patience.

The road crewman is displaying a "stop" sign, and we are all waiting in anticipation of the sign to be turned to its "slow" side, when we will be granted permission to begin inching down the road till we are past the construction area.

Some vehicles with Lissie as their final destination are detouring down a permitted exit to cross some side roads in the hope of being able to reach that destination.

Detours can do that. But it usually takes us longer and we are not always happy to be stuck with them, much less go so far as to "enjoy the scenery" along the way.

As I sit waiting in my car, air-conditioning pulsing out only a semi-cooling breeze to beat the hot Texas sun belting down on me and my idling vehicle, I'm reminded of the line of traffic a few years ago when the onslaught of human and vehicular traffic detoured through and around our city. It was September, 2005 and Hurricane Rita was causing havoc.

There were cars and trucks bumper-to-bumper for miles, all sorts of folks in varied luxury and economy-size vehicles, drivers in varied degrees of desperation or frustration, with a desire to just capture the fortune of any detour they could find that would take them away from the Houston area and away from the endless lines of escaping vehicles.

All were hot and tired and thirsty and hungry and weary and impatient and...not happy about their plight.

They all wanted a detour from this place in which they found themselves. This was one of the few times in which a detour was actually desired.

I have three friends who have all taken major detours in their lives within the last several

months. All have lost a spouse unexpectedly.

All have lost a spouse in only the fifth decade of their lives. All are in the midst of an unplanned course - an unanticipated detour.

Most are coping pretty well. One friend, Sandra, I met for dinner just last week. We shared drinks and a meal and stories of our children and grandchildren. But there was also serious discussion of healthcare and illness and financial challenges and premature losses and moving on in life... finding and taking the right road.

And there were some tears.

Still sitting patiently in my car, I see the road crewman is turning his sign to "slow" and I actually offer a small smile to him as I begin my slight detour.

But what makes me really feel better is remembering the last part of my evening with Sandra...where she promised to also move forward slowly, choosing to venture out on the right path for her.

We promised each other we would meet again soon and share new pictures of our beautiful grandchildren. And her healing smile, as we departed, let me know she could again begin to enjoy the scenery of the detour her life had taken.

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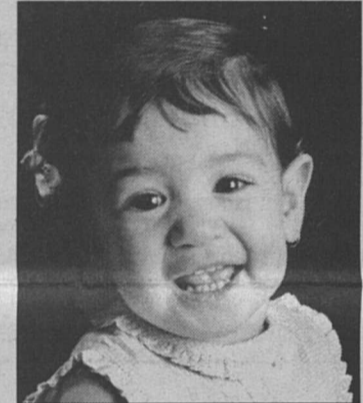
Happy 1st Birthday Jarent!



Love, Dad, Mom and Big Sisters

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Happy 1st Birthday "Alinna" 8-20-08



From: Mommy, Daddy, Nana and AJ

Gracias a todos por acompañarnos a festejar el primer año de Alinna y por los regalos.

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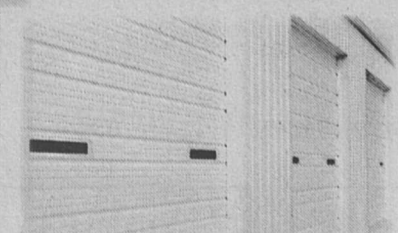
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Texas Residential Construction Commission Quality Construction for Texans

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