

ERIC-ISMS

“Why I never really believed in Santa Claus!”

Growing up in Southern IN in the 1960’s – we had all the traditional joyous celebrations including Christmas – but my first encounter with Santa Claus would leave me with a less than joyous impression.

Picture it – Eric – Age 4 – living in a trailer on the back lot of the Klem Hospitality factory among all the chemical barrels full of wood stain (another column in 2021 about that) celebrating Christmas. My parents were so excited that they were able to convince my Uncle Dan to dress up as Santa and deliver the toys. Well, Uncle Dan was about 18 years old at the time and thin as a rail – not your perfect model for Santa. The Santa Suit was something that he borrowed with the help of my Grandparents next door. I knew something was amiss when he arrived banging on our front door – rain soaked - yelling HO HO HO and sounding like my Uncle Dan. This is what appeared:



My sister and I were never more scared of anything in our entire lives! We ran screaming and hiding! Mom said all I would say was “Mommy, I don’t like this Santa!” From then on – when someone mentions Santa – this is what I pictured!

As the years went on, I did start to believe in Santa – not the person – but, what he stood for. The Magic of the Holiday Season: Joy – Cheer – Giving and Hope. And I think we all can agree those are the things we all need to feel the most during the Holidays...especially this year!

MONTHLY MUSE: TUUCI

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THE KLEM GROUP HOLIDAY CARD A TRADITION UNLIKE ANY OTHER!

It All started in 2008... when we decided to “Elf Ourselves” and from there... our ZaNy Holiday card tradition Took OFF! Each year we aim to spread holiday Cheer & Laughter with our funny {sometimes off kilter} cards.

Despite a Global Pandemic - the Tradition will Continue! but with some CHANGES, of course. Although this years “card” may LOOK, SOUND and FEEL different - our message is still the Same. {Spread Joy and Be Kind}



KG 2020 Christmas {VIDEO} Hitting your INBOX Soon! Check SPAM too!

COOKIN’ WITH RAMONA

Goopy Butter Sugar Cookies

Is it even the Holidays without baking cookies?! Here is an Easy - not so common - Holiday cookie Recipe that can be fun Solo or with the whole Family.

- Preheat oven to 350*
- Cream together the butter and cream cheese. Add the egg and vanilla and beat just until combined. Beat in the cake mix until well blended. Stir in ¼ cup of the sprinkles. * ADD Some Food Coloring too!
- **Refrigerate at least 1 hour or overnight.**
- Line cookie sheet with parchment paper. Scoop and roll dough into a 1-inch balls. Sprinkle the ball with sprinkles then Roll in the confectioner’s sugar until covered. Place about 2 inches apart on cookie sheet.
- Bake 8 to 10 mins then allow to sit on the sheet for 2 mins to cool.



1/2 Cup Butter, Softened
1 pkg Cream Cheese
1 Egg
1 tsp Vanilla
1 White Cake Mix
1/2 Confectioners Sugar
Sprinkles
* Food coloring, If you Want!