

From: Jennifer Faith <jenniferurlaub@gmail.com>
Date: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 3:21 PM
To: Darrin Lopez
Subject: Re: Hello from your long lost friend

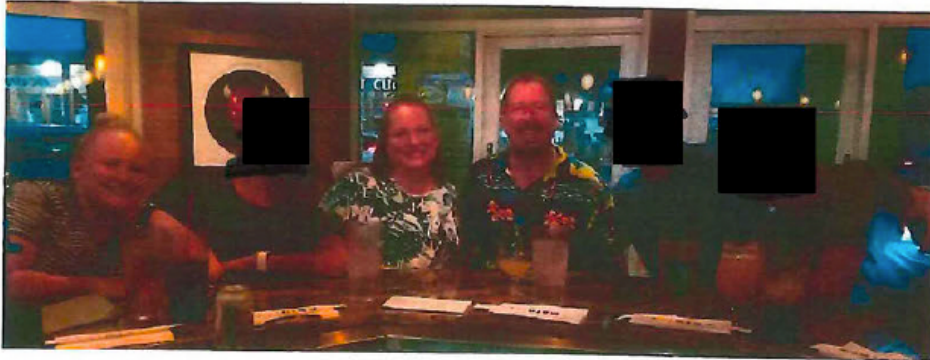
Hi Darrin,

Wow. My head has been swimming since I read this email this morning. You made my day, month, year, and possibly decade in reaching out to me and saying such nice things. Thank you.

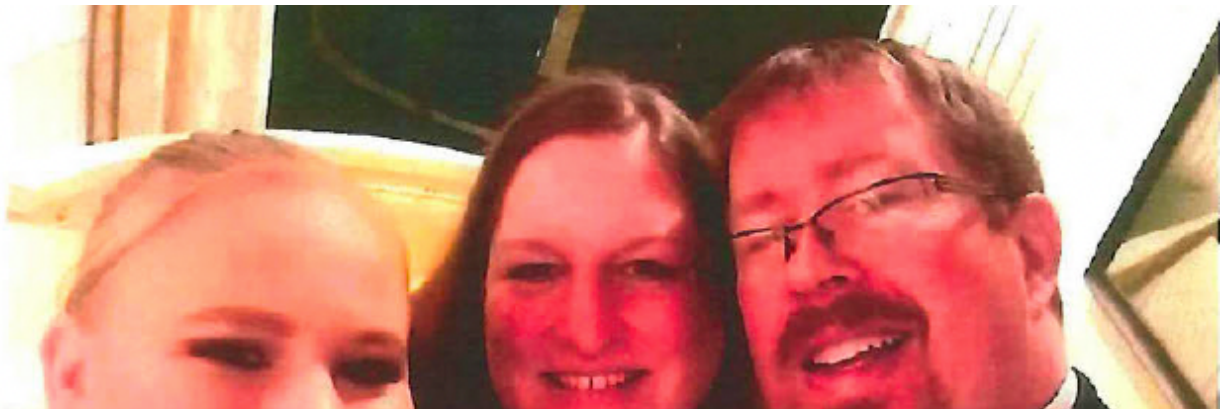
I have searched for you myself quite a bit through the years, but never with any luck. I think the closest I got was figuring out you might be married to someone named Becca and you lived somewhere in Tennessee. Could be COMPLETELY wrong, but you're a hard man to find and there are no details out there about you (which, I am sure you appreciate). I found your Dad's obituary from 2015 and that he passed from cancer. I am really sorry to hear that. I hope the two of you found peace with each other before he passed. I think about you and your family a lot, and have often wondered what came of your brothers and sister. And how is your mom? Is everyone still in Tucson? I have your mom to thank for teaching me how to make home made crispy taco shells, and my family knows that. My husband and daughter also both know that I was "this close" to becoming the next "J-Lo". hahaha.

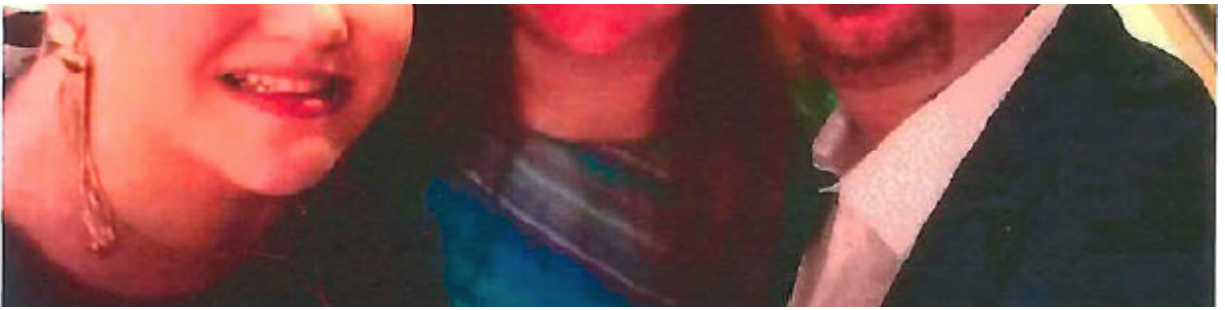
Oh lord - where do I start.....

The family picture on Twitter is an old one - from 2010. Here is a picture from 2019 of all of us with our best friends. Our families have been best friends for 14 years.....we all travel together, etc, and now that we live in separate states we are on a group text and not one single day goes by when we aren't texting each other.



And here is one of Jamie, Amber, and I from May, 2019 at Amber's college graduation party (read further).





My daughter, Amber, is 22...she will be 23 in May. She is my little over-achiever and finished her Master's degree at American University in Washington, DC last summer. [REDACTED]. My husband, Jamie, is Director of Web and Mobile for American Airlines. We have been together since 2005, and married since 2012.

Amber is the only child I ever had....timing and life didn't work out to have anymore kids. Things were not easy for me for a very long time after we lost touch. I think you may remember I was dating a guy named [REDACTED] in Flagstaff right before you left (he was in my car with me when I was rear-ended in the Jack-in-the-Box drive-thru....remember that night? lol). Well, we got married in 1995 and then we moved to Virginia (Newport News) so I could get my Master's in Speech Pathology, which I did in 1997. Amber is [REDACTED] biological child, however in 1996 when I became pregnant (unplanned), he decided he didn't want to be married and didn't want kids. He pretty much freaked out and left. He never did remarry and he never had any other children, so I guess he was being honest. At any rate, that left me pregnant in my last year of grad school and alone in Virginia. I finished my thesis, passed my comprehensive exams, passed my national exam for my license, graduated, and had Amber all within 3 weeks of each other. I stayed in VA one more year because I won a fellowship year at a highly-ranked community hospital and didn't want to pass it up.

When I finished that, I moved to Phoenix in 1998 so I could be closer to my grandparents in Tucson and to my aunt and cousins in Albuquerque. My mom was a travel nurse at the time and her life was chaotic to say the least. Long story short, when Amber was about 3, [REDACTED] moved to Phoenix because he decided he wanted to get to know Amber. I had never filed for divorce at that point, so my mom and grandparents were pushing me to try to get back together with him. It was a fiasco because that was the last thing I wanted, so I rapidly filed for divorce, which pissed off my family to

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no end, and then I quickly married the next guy who came along, which was a huge mistake and only lasted 9 months. This all caused such a huge rift between my mother, grandparents, and myself that we never got past it. I haven't spoken to my mother since 2001, and I was never able to get my grandparents to respond to me as much as I tried. My grandparents are both deceased now. As far as I know, my mother is on her 5th marriage and living somewhere in North Carolina.

At that point, I was tired of changing my last name, so I kept the mistake dude's last name ([REDACTED] - means [REDACTED] in German) until I married Jamie in 2012 and became "Faith". [REDACTED] was short-lived in Amber's life. He stayed in the Phoenix area, but was pretty much an absentee father, physically, emotionally, and financially, so Jamie is really the only "Dad" Amber has ever known, and when she turned 18 she asked him to adopt her, which he gladly did. Prior to 2005, I raised Amber by myself. It was sooo hard, but we managed well. Career-wise, I always managed to do super well. Once Jamie and I got together, and things were serious enough for us to move in together, I started pursuing more and more continuing education and additional certifications, which allowed me to teach several classes and head-up a program at ASU, and then in the hospital system, I started moving up the chain in healthcare administration and overseeing therapy programs and assisting with new hospital openings across the country. Jamie worked for Phelps Dodge until 2006 and then moved to US Airways, who bought American Airlines (but they kept the bigger airline name and headquarters), which is what brought us to Dallas, TX in 2017.

That's the "nutshell" version of where I've been, what I've done, etc. I have about a billion anecdotal things I would LOVE to tell you about (more than I can count....and they keep flooding my brain). There's a ton of juicy tales I have for you about people we know in common (the main one being about Jon Komar.....WAIT until you here this one....you will be blown away).

And, by the way, I love the song "What Might Have Been". The one that ALWAYS makes me think of you is Same Auld Lang Syne by Dan Fogelberg. For some reason, I always imagined something like that happening to us at some point.

I am certain you weren't expecting a book of a response back to you, but once I started typing I couldn't stop. I really hope you are doing well and you are happy. I have definitely missed you over the years and there have been so many times I've wanted to talk to you. Thanks for being persistent in looking for me.

Love,
Jenn