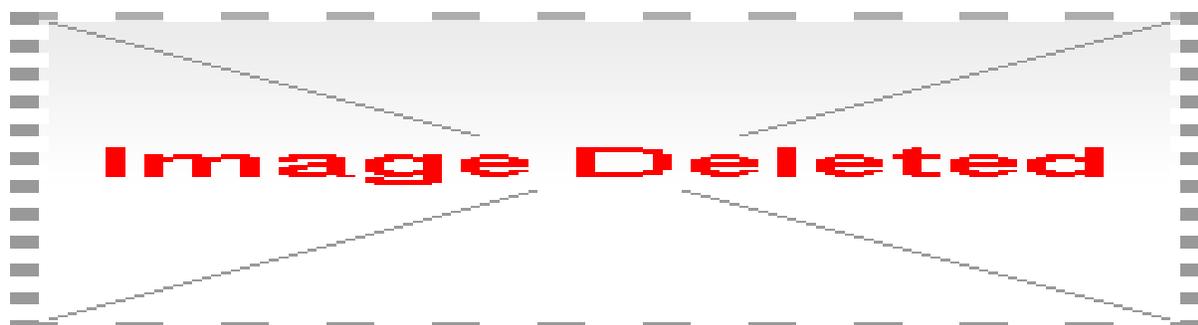


Byrd & Byrd, LLC

December 2010



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Dear Jacqueline D.,

WELCOME to the latest edition of the Byrd & Byrd email newsletter! It's our "Christmas Edition"! We hope that you enjoy this newsletter and find a little Christmas joy along with the latest news from Byrd & Byrd. Happy Reading!



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Byrd & Byrd Voted Best Attorney in Bowie





Merry Christmas!!!
from all of us here at Byrd & Byrd

Byrd & Byrd wishes you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! We hope this holiday season is full of joy and happiness, that wonderful memories are made this year, and the company of family and friends warms your hearts.

From all of us here at Byrd & Byrd, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

The Music of Christmas
By Jackie Byrd

On Christmas morning, 1979, my father died.

He was much too young to die, and remains forever a youthful 56 in my memory. The holiday season remains gorgeous and glorious as always. However, all these many years later, the celebration retains for me a sobering and quiet solitary perspective. Memories arise, unbidden but familiar friends, and take their accustomed place in my heart and mind amid the surrounding festivities.

When the music plays, I remember how very much he loved it and the real joy he experienced from hearing or singing the carols. The broad smile that music always brought to his face was contagious, and people smiled all around him.

When the shopping is crowded and nearly impossible, I remember how dad never was the slightest bit interested in shopping until afternoon on Christmas Eve. After all the church concerts, appointments, services and dinners were done. In those olden days, we had the "Christmas Eve" service at an earlier date. He would bounce into my room and say, "Come on! Let's go get mom something!" Being a know-it-all college student, I would be frustrated and semi-angry at this annual behavior of his, and

Testimonials

"You have made my life so much easier during this trying time in our lives. Words cannot express our appreciation."

-Mr. & Mrs. L.
Chesapeake Beach, MD

"This is a long overdue note of thanks for coming to our rescue! It has been such a comfort - a real answer to so many prayers. We want you to know how very much we appreciate you and all you've been doing on our behalf"

Wendy & John

Senior Moments Publications

Jackie Byrd has published two books in recent years. *Senior Moments* and *Senior Moments 2*; both comprehensive and clearly written books for "Seniors and those who love them". They are based on weekly "Senior Moments" columns originally written for publication in the Bowie Blade-News of Bowie, Maryland and the Crofton News-Crier of Crofton, Maryland.

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[Senior Moments](#)
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always had to make comments reflecting my own superiority and lack of enthusiasm for his last-minute approach. Never the less, I grabbed my coat as we sailed out the door to every discount store in the country (remember Klein's and Zayre's?) Soon I was under the influence of his great good humor, and had to skip to keep up with the walk-run of his short legs! He did everything in a sort of semi-run, and I sometimes wonder if he knew that he would die young.

Dad could not carry a tune in a basket, but I soon joined him in robustly singing along with the piped-in store carols, and the silver bells on the streets and parking lots.

When clients and friends complain to me about growing older, I remind them that there are only two choices: death at too young an age or growing older. I have come to believe, when pressed, that it is quite possible there are things worse than death.

For I have also lost my mom. I cannot pin-point the exact date. In fact, there is someone I see many times a week. She looks pretty much like my mom. She is dressed like my mom and her smile is reminiscent of mom's. I exchange many hugs and kisses with this person. I love her. I take care of her and see that she is taken care of when I work - but she is not my mom.

In the past ten years, she and I have struggled together through so much. This woman, who ran a capitol hill office for years and whose manners were impeccable, often called me a liar and said that she only wished I loved her. She told others they were looking old, or had gained too much weight. She spent years looking for the "other Jackie" - the one who was younger, nicer and did not argue with her.

Today we are past much of that. Through the wonders of medication and much trial and error, she is mostly a calmer person. However, she still lives in a world quite different from ours. She rarely calls anyone by the correct name, and often insists that my husband is her father and has introduced him to others that way. She continues to wish to pack her things and go home, though she has lived for the past several years in a beautiful Yorktown section rancher, which is in fact her home now. Her younger brother has moved down from New York City and generously runs the day to day operations of their life together. We have been the blessed recipients of a true gift from God in the form of a perfect care giver, Pody, who treats my mom as though she were her own mother and has become a real part of our family.

Last night, about twenty singers from our church choir came and sang carols to her in the room with the Christmas tree where she now spends most of her hours. As their beautiful harmonies filled the room, I saw my mother's eyes light up. Then, incredibly, she began to sing the carols with them - not missing a word. As I saw her happiness and joy in the moment, I could not stop the tears flowing down my face. In truth, I rather dissolved into a blubbering idiot! We spend hours trying to provide happiness and joy for her and, once again, it was the music that did it.

It is still a few days until Christmas Eve, but for this daughter, my Christmas has already been beautifully blessed. I will never forget it.

YouTube Videos of the Month **(Christmas Edition)**

Here at Byrd & Byrd, we want to make the monthly newsletter enjoyable to read, attractive to view, and interactive for our readers. What better way to accomplish that than to post our favorite YouTube video each month.

This month, we bring you two YouTube videos of one of the most well-known songs ever written. That song is Handel's "Hallelujah Chorus". In this first video, holiday shoppers are the unexpected audience of a memorable performance, which they will never forget.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SXh7JR9oKVE>

The second video was created by some high school students. They found a creative way to perform the "Hallelujah Chorus"... without using their voices!

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZCFceJTEzNU>

If you are interested in having an Attorney from Byrd & Byrd speak to your organization, or at a special event, please contact us at 301-464-7448.

About Our Firm

The Law Firm of Byrd & Byrd, LLC provides services in Elder Law and Construction Law, a rare combination that reflects the passion and life experience of its partners. The firm is also a general practice firm that manages issues of personal injury, family law, personal injury, wrongful death and medical malpractice.

Known for building strong long-term relationships with our clients, the firm's attorneys excel at making complicated legal issues easier to understand. Whether assisting a contractor, subcontractor, builder or property owner with contract or construction litigation, or helping an elderly client find appropriate housing, apply for Medicaid eligibility, or execute powers of attorney, the firm offers wise and experienced counsel and guidance.

Our Mission Statement

Byrd & Byrd, LLC is dedicated to protecting and serving senior citizens and those who love them. Our key objective is to give our clients the gift of information, so that with their knowledge, they can achieve all the benefits that the law guarantees. We will always perform our mission in strict accordance to the law and the highest possible moral and ethical standards

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