

November 2017

News Junkie

On Friday night, October 6, we were preparing for the arrival of Hurricane Nate, when my wife started having stomach cramps. We took her to the ER, and she had emergency colon surgery, followed by 17 days hospitalization. She's now recovering at home, and I am a full-time caregiver. I have lots of time to vent.

I am an admitted recovering news junkie, and have been "dry" for a year. I stopped watching TV news when the mainstream media started spending most of their airtime attacking Trump, and FOX was spending most of their time defending Trump. I retreated to ESPN and the Golf Channel. I thought I could get away from politics in sports. Then, the ESPN commentators started giving their political opinions, and the conservatives were quickly fired, but the liberals survived.

Fall is my favorite time of year, mainly because it's football season. Last fall was great for Atlanta Falcon fans ... until the Super Bowl. My two Georgia college teams were having disappointing years, and I was looking forward to this year. Then the pro players started disrespecting the flag. Fortunately for the TV networks, I am too old to matter, because I will most likely never watch another NFL game.

President Trump is right about the NFL. Not watching the NFL was the easiest habit I've ever broken. My Sunday afternoons are much more pleasant now.

Speaking of President Trump, he was not my first, second, or fifth choice, and I wish he would act a little more "presidential," by having his tweets edited, but I think he is doing a good job, against almost insurmountable odds. The "establishment" was surprised at his election, and they thought they could get rid of him by now. His approval ratings are below 40%, but he's among the most popular people in the swamp. Congress and the media are even lower ... much lower.

I shudder to think who Hillary would have put on the Supreme Court. We are a very corrupt country, and the Donald may have been the only person running who had enough ego to survive the establishment attacks.

I'm pessimistic about our long-term future. We have a myriad of structural problems, and I have listed a few.

1. On democracy: "It can only exist until the voters discover that they can vote themselves largesse from the public treasury." That quote has been attributed to any

number of our forefathers, and even some foreigners. Nobody knows who first said it, but everybody knows that the voters have discovered it.

2. In a recent survey of millennials, (age 18-34) half said they would rather live under socialism or communism, than capitalism. 71% couldn't define communism, and 22% viewed Karl Marks as a hero. 80% don't think the rich pay enough taxes. They are the largest demographic, and that coupled with "open" borders doesn't bode well for our future. Florida is probably getting enough legal immigrants from Puerto Rico to change the state to democrat.

3. When manufacturing started to leave the US, robots were in their infancy. The days of the assembly line have changed. Someone sent me a video of the Tesla assembly line recently, and there were few workers in view. The Government changed the way that the unemployment percentage is figured a few years ago, and they don't count the workers that have given up. The real unemployment percentage is in double figures.

4. Our number 1 problem; we have lost our moral compass. Our families failed, and then the churches, or vice versa. Many of the country's largest churches are preaching a "feel good" gospel ... cut out the same mold as Joel Osteen. If the country has a spiritual awakening ... we can solve all the other problems.

I haven't mentioned the media, academics, Islam, etc. I have lots to vent about in the future.