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Joyce's Journal

A monthly dispatch from Joyce A. Miller, Writer



ANNIVERSARIES!

February is a busy month in my household. My husband's birthday is February 12, Valentine's Day is February 14 and our wedding anniversary is February 16.

This year marks our 25th wedding anniversary, a quarter of a century. Silver is the material linked to 25 years because it is a precious, durable metal representing the rare, long-lasting nature of a couple's relationship. Silver is also said to represent harmony. Harmony means understanding but not necessarily agreeing; and that's a good philosophy to have to make it together for 25 years. In the past, silver jewelry was thought to bring the wearer good luck and to ward off evil spirits. My husband doesn't seem to be worried about evil spirits; and is also a photographer, so perhaps silver used in the manufacture of mirrors for a microscope or telescope would be a better anniversary gift. Silver is one of only three color words in English to have no rhyming words so I don't think I'll be writing any poetry as a gift.

Two things I remember about our wedding day. There was a Nor'easter snow storm that moved up the coast and dumped 12 inches of snow, almost canceling the wedding. There were creepy, Kewpie dolls on the wedding cake that had been in my husband's family and on their family wedding cakes for years, including the cake when he married his first wife. When we were cutting the cake, the bride doll slowly rolled off the table and broke on the tile floor.

A GLIMPSE OF
WHAT'S INCLUDED:

Joe Harris
Photo Album

In my novel, Joe Harris, the Moon, Joe and Pearl got married on February 4, 1921. So, they would be celebrating their 100th wedding anniversary! The record for the longest marriage is held by a North Carolina couple who were married for 86 years when the husband, Herbert Fisher, passed away at age 105. They may have loved each other but I'm guessing that in addition to that, one person in that relationship had a lot of patience.

Exciting news! Joe Harris, the Moon was nominated for the 2021 Larry Ritter Award. The award is bestowed annually by the Deadball Era Committee (DEC) of the Society for American Baseball Research (SABR) to the author of the best book about baseball between 1901 and 1919 published during the previous calendar year. The winner's work must demonstrate original research or analysis, a fresh perspective, compelling thesis, impressive insight, accuracy, and clear graceful prose.

On February 3rd, I'll be discussing my book with the Hampton Roads Kiwanis via a Zoom call. If your group would like to read Joe Harris, the Moon and have me join you, I would love the opportunity to discuss it with you. Let me know!

I live in the Church Hill section of Richmond, VA with my husband and my retired racing greyhound. Before I started writing, I worked for 30 years at a nuclear physics research laboratory.

Show up and shine!



JOYCE A. MILLER, WRITER

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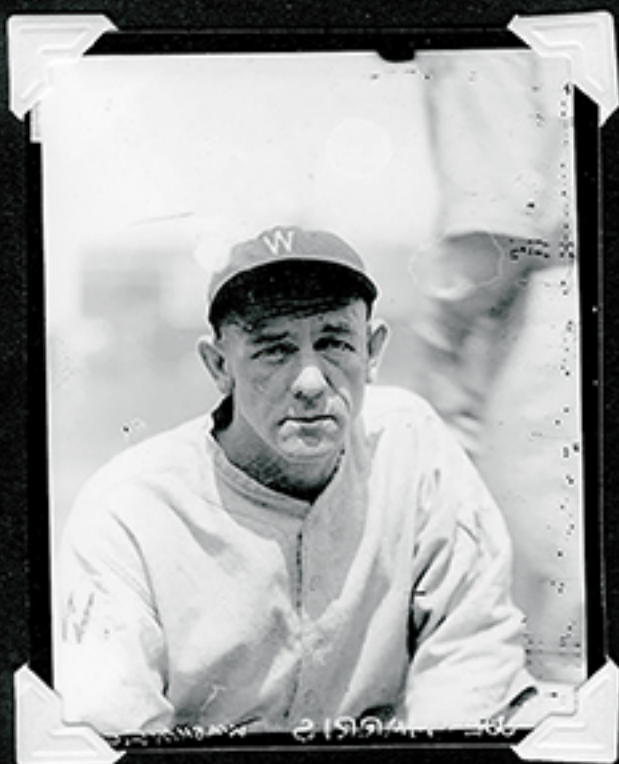
Joe Harris heading
to Fort Lee 1918



Joe Harris and
Pearl Hepner
engagement
photo 1920



First
automobile



Joe Harris, the Moon
Washington Senators
1925



running bases



sliding into third



Joe Harris, the Moon
in the dugout



first baseman



batting