



Ganson Street Baptist Church &lt;church@gansonstreet.org&gt;

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**Fwd: February**

2 messages

Reuben Mains &lt;mains@spiceisle.com&gt;

Sun, Feb 25, 2024 at 8:31 PM

**We left Grenada on the 31st of January to get to Dallas for Susan's mother's funeral on the 3rd of February. Susan had just been cleared to fly that Monday, the 29th of January, by her doctor.**

**Our 2 boys joined us in Dallas. Shar's family was there, including their new daughter-in-law, and Pat's (Susan's deceased sister) 3 children were there with their spouses and children. It was good to see these relatives, who we don't get to see very often.**

**The funeral was a nice, warm service with a number of heartfelt tributes being given. (It was a little shorter than it would have been in Grenada, but that's a cultural difference.)**

**We were just in Dallas for about 5 days and flew back to Grenada. Susan almost immediately came down with something that she apparently had picked up in Dallas, and was sick for most of the rest of the month. Reuben got it from her, but was only really sick for about 1 week.**

**We got back to Grenada on a Wednesday, and BCA (school) had their annual sports day that Friday. Reuben had to immediately look after the logistical details of having the sports. This included the following:**

- 1. Buy 1 gallon of white paint and 2 quarts of yellow paint for the ground crew at the recreational grounds so they could paint the lane lines and starting points to prepare for the track events (grass field).**
- 2. Collect the medals that had been ordered before we left for the funeral.**
- 3. Arrange for a tent for the results recorder by the finish line. We had requested a tent 2 weeks earlier, but only learned that Wednesday that the tent we had requested would not be available to us. We had to go out and rent one on Thursday to have it for Friday.**
- 4. Arrange for the public address system. The parent who had been doing this for us the past couple of years had not been responding to WhatsApp text messages, emails or phone calls all week. It was only Friday morning, the day of sports, that he sent me a text that he would not be able to get off work that day, so would not be able to do it. I had to arrange with a local church to borrow one from them, go and collect it, and set it up before sports started at 11:00 a.m.**
- 5. Go to school to collect and carry down tables, chairs, blocks for the block race, shopping bags for the shopping race, sacks for the sack races, supplies for the house teams (the students are divided into teams called houses) to do their marching, which is a central event loved by parents.**
- 6. Supervised the long jump events, which were done before the official start of the track events.**

7. **Call the Starters' Association to find out why our official starter had not shown up on time. (He got the date mixed up and thought it was for the 6th of March, not the 6th of Feb.) So we got an impromptu volunteer starter with a whistle.**
8. **Recruited a volunteer recorder. (The person who had agreed to do it for us never showed up or called.)**
9. **Drive up to the girls' high school in town to collect the drum corps who would perform for our students to march to. (Then return them back to their school, after making sure they all got something to drink.)**
10. **Monitor the sports, including that students were running in their correct age group for events.**
11. **Supervise the giving out of medals, including finding an appropriate presenter to present the medals to the students.**
12. **Carry the above supplies back to school.**

**Needless to say, I was tired at the end of the day.**

**Fortunately I didn't really get sick until the following Sunday, and stayed home from school that whole week.**

**Susan is now definitely feeling better. We went to the beach with the dogs for the first time this month on Friday for what we call a "sea bath".**

**This school term will end early this year, on the 22nd of March, as the weeks before and after Easter are always taken as the "Easter break". The new term will begin on the 8th of April.**

**In Grenada,  
Reuben & Susan Mains**

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Wed, Feb 28, 2024 at 4:32 PM

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