

By Nancy Whitaker

Whatever happened to Bob, Dick, Jim, George and Joe? Whatever happened to Mary, Rebecca, Elizabeth, Susan and Margaret? I am not thinking of different people, I am just wondering about the different names that people choose for their kids.

Each year it seems as if couples are coming up with unusual names and I think, "Where did they come up with that name?"

Now I don't have room to say anything because my first two daughters got more non-traditional names, but my last two children got more common monikers.

I always thought my grandparents had weird names. Grandpa's name was Clarence and Grandma's was Dora. On the other side of the relatives, Grandpa had the name of Orley and Grandma's was Leafa. To me those names may be rare or at least you don't hear them a lot.

Our names are very important all of our lives. From the time we are born until we die, we are stuck or blessed with the name that Mama or Papa tacked on us. Some people name their offspring after a relative, while some name them after celebrities.

The year 2012 was no different when it came to naming babies. Some very creative or devoted parents chose names that were way outside of the box.

Some of the unusual names for a girl were: Admire, Excel, Fedora, Gilmore, Inny, Jazzy, Jeevika, Ju-Ju, Jury, Leeloo, Mclean, Oasis, Rogue, Sanity, Twisha, Ummi, Yoga and Zealand. After looking at those names, I would not even know which one to pick if I had to.

## A boy named Sue

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Now boys names were not much better. Some unusual names given to boys were: Alpha, Ball, Burger, Drifter, Casanova, Espn and Google.

Now here are some more strange names that babies got stuck with in 2012: Pawk, Popeye, Hippo, Htoo, Hurricane, and Savior.

A lot of times we just don't like our names. This reminds me of an old Johnny Cash song, "A boy named Sue." I always liked the song because my middle name is Sue.

The words to "A Boy Named Sue" shows the frustration this boy has with his girly name by the following lyrics:

"My daddy left home when I was three

"And he didn't leave much to Ma and me

"Just this old guitar and an empty bottle of booze.

"Now, I don't blame him cause he run and hid

"But the meanest thing that he ever did

"Was before he left, he went and named me 'Sue.'

"Well, he must o' thought that is quite a joke

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“And it got a lot of laughs from a' lots of folk,

“It seems I had to fight my whole life through.

Some gal would giggle and I'd get red

“And some guy'd laugh and I'd bust his head,

“I tell ya, life ain't easy for a boy named 'Sue.'”

The song goes on to tell about the young man meeting his father in a bar and how they fought.

It seems as if the whole song about “Sue” was that he had learned to use his fists to defend himself against those who laughed at his name.

Now, I think my name is bad enough, but if my mama would have went and named me Ummi or Ju-Ju, I may have written a song, too.

Do you know of any strange or unusual names? Do you like your name? If you could change your name, what would you change it to?