Well brother, life keeps going. I was just checking out this new thing on Facebook. You challenge your friend to name the things they are grateful for. I haven’t been challenged but I was thinking of a few things that make me happy.

I’m grateful that they make belts taller than my wife so they are long enough to keep my pants up.

I’m grateful that China is no longer starving because I could no longer take all that extra food I had to eat as a kid as mom admonished, “eat, people in China are starving.

I’m grateful that I can still see out of one eye as the doctors tell me it could take months for my other eye to clear up.

I’m grateful that I have a healthy grand son who makes me laugh more than I’ve laughed in years.

I’m grateful that the Hallmark channel is advertising already that beginning October 31st, they will begin premiering and playing all of their Christmas specials. I love Christmas as much as the next guy but this build up is a bit too big. By the time Christmas comes, the anticipation is over.

I’m grateful that I live in a town where people can throw stones and insults and then attempt to invoke the forgive and forget adage.

I’m grateful that we now live in a society where nothing can be worked out effectively without threatening law suits. Whatever happened to working things out with out the lawyers (no offense to any of my friends in the legal profession).

I’m grateful for good memories because as we get older they are sometimes the only things that make us smile.

I only had to give three so if anyone challenges me I think I’ve reached my quota.

On another note, the Yankees are done and two weeks into the football season the Giants are all done as well. I hope those who have gone before us are giving you a better game on the fields where you are.

As the summer ends, we’ve finished up with the summer canning. I did up a cabinet full of hot peppers and made the pepper relish for my son and son-in-law. Three bushels of tomatoes and a bushel of eggplants. We only fried them this year as since you’ve been gone I don’t seem to need as many jars of pickled eggplants as I use to. Gina did up the apple preserves and that part of the kitchen is closed until another season.

The visiting coyotes finally took care of my woodchuck problems. After five years they are gone but the problem now is my grandson is looking for them and he gets very disappointed when he looks for “woody” and he is no where to be found.

Crazy stuff going on in town but to keep mentioning it would just be repetitive. I could start a serial novel about some of the stuff going on. The problem is that none of the banter ever changes. The same fights just keep going on and on and nothing ever gets solved. It’s sad.

I’ve retired from a number of things I use to do in a volunteer capacity. It’s a little boring, sometimes you just have to move on. Thank God for Matlock and Diagnosis Murder reruns.

Well that’s going to have to do it for now. There is a Monk Marathon on that I just have to see. The good news is that my memory is still great and I do remember watching all these old shows and I remember how they solved the cases but it still intrigues me.

Take care and I’ll see you soon.