

# Controlled Chaos

The past two weeks have been filled with visitors from the north... 4 additional family members and the three of us makes SEVEN plus more relatives and assorted friends and you get what can only be described as somewhat controlled chaos. (and that might be pushing it). Charnel, Rich, Kyli (age 2 going on 22), and Chloe (9 months) arrived the day after Easter from Alaska where Rich is stationed and is on leave from his deployment in Afghanistan. I was asked if the noise kept me up at night... What noise? I admit that I haven't needed a traditional alarm clock for the past 14 days but I haven't been awoken at all hours, either. Here are a few of the highlights:

- Dinner made by Rich's bother. Charnel and others wanted some fettucini alfredo with chicken and bacon. I said that I would try it. I took a little sample and as politely as I could decided to make a frozen pizza. I'm usually open to new things but something about it just did not appeal to me. I was amazed that my oldest brother (one of the pickiest eaters... second only to his oldest) tried some; not so amazingly, Jeff didn't care for it, either.
- Cosmic bowling while I watched kids. Honestly, I did not think that the alley allowed children after a certain hour or I wonder if two of the four kids would have gone. I decided to sit that one out to help watch the little ones so the parents could go to bed early.
- Dinner at Texas Roadhouse. Apparently, they do not have them in Alaska. Might they have an Alaska Roadside Igloo where they serve moose steak? But 17 people with 7 little ones. I felt sorry for our poor waitress... I gave a larger tip than I should have. Ok... so there might have been a bit more involved than pity. Peanut tossing by a BIG KID not me caused a bit of chaos before we were

called to our table.

Well... the visitors are here until Wednesday... let's see if more "controlled chaos" ensues.