

# What the what?



My son has this tattoo on his forearm.

Why you ask? Why would he do that? That's a question I've been wrestling with for over a year.

The short story is he's an idiot.

The long and true story is that he wants to duplicate the tattoos his cousin Bobby had including this one. I told him that just because Bobby had it doesn't make it a good idea but I'm not sure it's right to speak ill of the dead.

Bobby was killed three years ago in a drunk driving accident. His friend lost control of the vehicle they were riding in and wrapped it around a tree. They were both killed instantly. It remains a tragedy of unspeakable proportion. My brother lost his only child. My son lost his childhood best friend. He was only twenty one.

So Alex wants to memorialize his beloved cousin by recreating his tattoos. He never wants to forget someone that he loved. I understand that. I respect it. I am not against tattoos but this one has been hard to swallow. I think because it is offensive to many people, it's hard for me to accept that it's now a permanent part of his body. When my brother saw it for the first time he literally said "WTF Alex?"

It's pretty common knowledge what WTF stands for. Even my mother knows. In my quest to make this go down easier I've convinced myself that there are lots of other things it can stand for. What do you think of these?

Why the Frown?

Where's the Food?

Well that's Fabulous  
What's that Friend?  
Wow that's fun  
Welcome to Facebook  
Write to File  
What's This For?  
Who the Freak?  
Where's the Fridge?  
Where's the Fish?  
What's This Foolishness  
Where's the Fire?  
We're Tasting Frosting  
Work Time Fun  
Welcome to Finland

As much as I'd like to think it stood for something else I know in heart what it really means. It means my nephew is gone way too soon. It means my son has to deal with his loss in the best possible way he knows how. And when I honestly think about it I'm inclined to say WTF myself. In this situation...what else can you say?