You have Jack the Ripper, Jack and the Beanstalk, Jack who was nimble, quick and jumped candlesticks, Jack who golfed balls and turned into a Golden Bear, Jack Lord who lived in Hawaii, and had “Danno book ‘em.”

There was Jack of all trades, a Jack who drove PT109 and moved to the White House, Jack the Knife, Action Jackson, Jack Webb who got all the facts, and many people and cars who get jacked up. Jack is a great name.

Who can forget the immortal words which echoed through the fabled Boston Garden: “At forward, six-foot-nine, from Indiana State, La Harry Birrrdddd.” When asked about his Hall of Fame career he responded, “I’m just a hick from French Lick.” There’s a Larry, who was a King, started in radio in Miami in the 50’s and went on to have a big time nightly interview show on CNN. He was married 7 times.

Larry Flint sold magazines which I bought only to read the articles. He got shot.

There was a guy named Larry who used to play football in Miami. If he broke through the line of scrimmage and into the secondary, he would look for defensive backs to run into and they got “Zonked.” One of my faves, Larry the Cable Guy is looking to “git er done, Lord, I apologize.” How about Larry Hagman. He lived with and dreamed of a Genie, and later ran Dallas.

Ben Franklin got the shock of his life when he invented the stove. Now ain’t that hot?

Speaking of hot, there was a James who invented the Flames, always felt good, and was called the “hardest working man in show business.” There was an actor named James who was a Yankee Doodle Dandy, and coined the phrase “You dirty rat.” “Sweet Baby James” has been recording and staying on top of the charts since the late 60’s despite battling the drug demons and other addictive habits and is always found “Up on the roof.” Ian Fleming created a fictional James who has been saving the world from evil doers since the early 60’s. The name is Bond, James Bond. A great lover of ladies, his martini was shaken, not stirred. James
Earl Jones aka “the voice” had such a problem stuttering as a child he was basically mute until a teacher helped him overcome the problem by reciting poetry in class.

Robert Trent Jones Sr. designed golf courses – some of the most famous in the world. Robert De Niro drove a taxi and became a famous actor. Robert Fulton was always steaming until he built a boat to go up and down the Hudson. Robert E. Lee lost a war, rode a horse named Traveler, and surrendered at Appomattox. Robert Nesta Marley put Reggae on the map and lifted the genre from Jamaica and gave it to the world. Jah rastafari. Robert Shaw was a brilliant actor who got eaten in Jaws. Robert the Bruce was the most famous King of Scotland. He ruled from 1315 to 1329.

Johnny was always on the spot. When he was overseas during World War II, he got “Dear John” letters. John was a movie star who went on to be a Rooster with “True Grit,” and was a “Duke” to his friends. There was a John who was the second president of the United States, and then his son John Quincy became a president too.

John was part of this English rock group called “The Beatles.” They named a plaza in New York after a guy named John who made a lot of money. John Denver thanked God he was a country boy and later went to Colorado to get “high.” I heard tell of a man named John Henry who was a steel driving man and died with a hammer in his hand. Another famous John played tennis with some success despite his terrible temper. Another killed a President named Lincoln. A John named Belushi burst on the scene of Saturday Night Live, made a movie called Animal House, and went on to be a famous “Blues Brother.”

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