

Memorial Book



In Loving Memory of

Jay Crews

(December 23, 1960 - March 31, 2006)



Dying seems less sad than having lived too little.

Gloria Steinem

This memorial website was created to remember **James P. Crews** who was born on **December 23, 1960** and passed away on **March 31, 2006** at the age of 45 after a courageous 2 year battle with cancer. **You will live forever in our memories and hearts.**

This site was set up as a place for family and friends to celebrate Jay's life and leave thoughts, comments or stories. Please light a candle and visit the picture gallery and video sections.

Memorial at Sea

Friday April 21, 2006 Kevin, Jesse and his wife Madeline, myself and Captain Art Windsor boarded the Tribute at 9:00 am at Redondo Beach, California for the cruise out of the harbor into the Pacific Ocean for Jay's service and final resting place.

The captain who has offered these services since 1965, kindly explained before departing what to expect, to make us more comfortable. A basket containing Jay's ashes covered with rose petals and carnations had already been carefully placed on the floor.

The hazy sky began to clear and the sun became bright as we slowly headed out to sea as if to say everything is right. A little less than two miles the captain cut the engine and we felt the calmness of the water. We had moments to share Jay's life with each other and then the captain read the familiar poem untitled by Mary Frye, "Do not stand at my grave and weep, I am not there, I do not sleep." The second poem he read was "Crossing the Bar." We said The Lords Prayer and with this Captain Art gently lowered the basket several feet into the water and as the petals rose to the surface we knew Jay had found his final resting place.

We spent moments reflecting on Jay's life as the flowers slowly drifted away. As a final farewell, the vessel "Tribute," slowly circled the area marked by the flowers. What a beautiful farewell for a guy who's life effected so many. May you rest in peace.

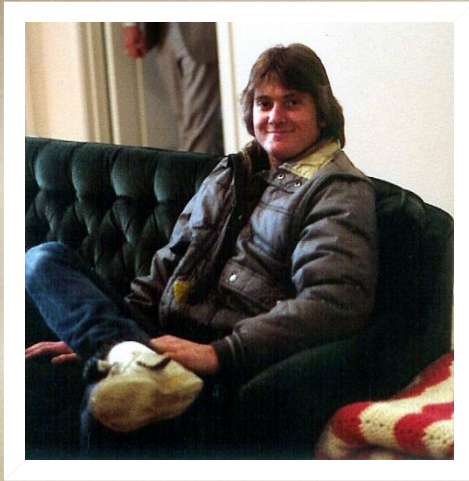




The image features two roses, one smaller and one larger, positioned in the upper right quadrant. They are set against a textured, mottled background of warm, earthy tones, including shades of beige, tan, and light brown. The roses are rendered in a soft, slightly faded style, blending into the background.

Gallery

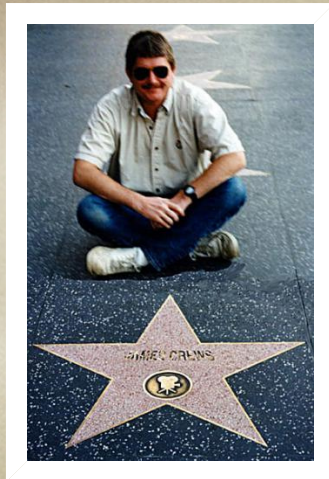
so sweet, so unforgettable...



Jay in Texas, 1984



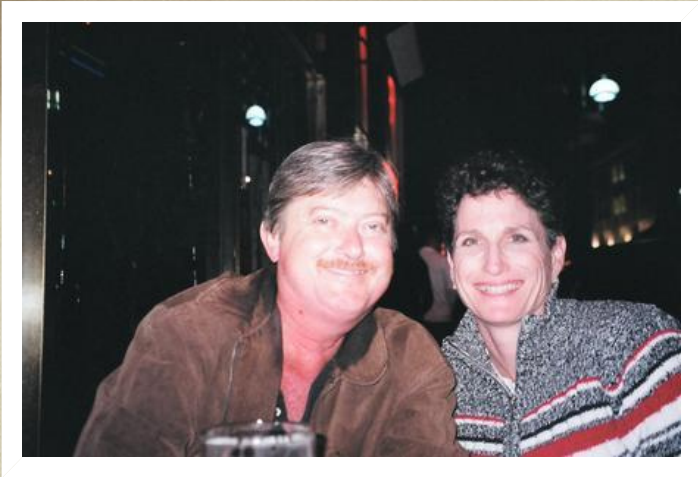
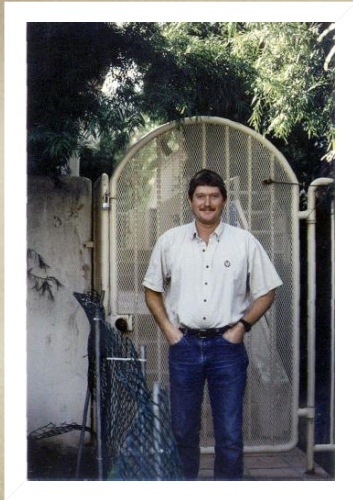
Jay in Malibu



Jay's star in Hollywood!



Jay after climbing up to the Hollywood sign with Kevin



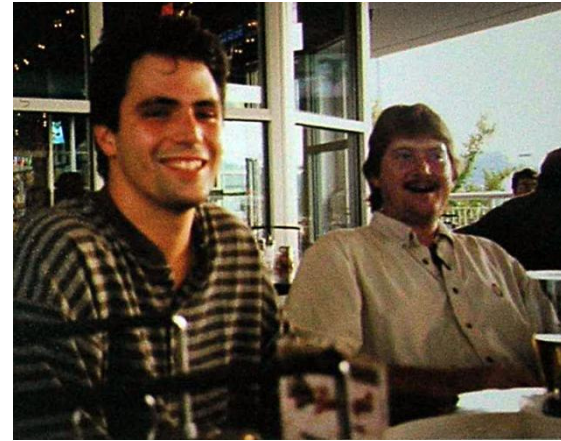
Jay with Marcy in 2004



Jay with Kevin



The eternal bachelor!



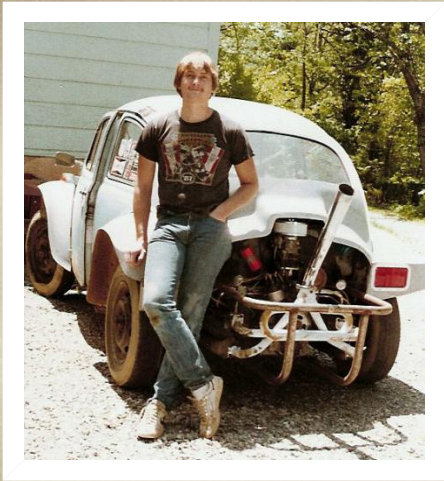
Jay at Steve's bachelor's party in Atlanta



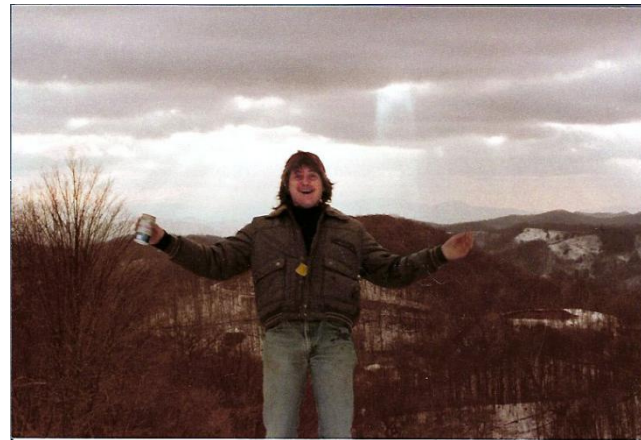
Steve's bachelor's party



Steve's wedding 1996



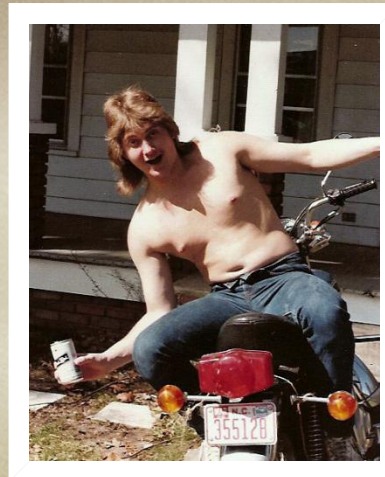
Jay and his VW Bug in 1984



1984 skiing trip



Skiing trip - the morning after!



Jay outside his house in Asheville, 1984



Jay 3 1/2 with his sister Lisa 2 yrs. old



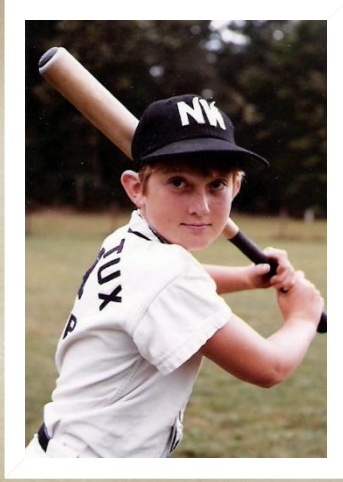
Jay in 1966



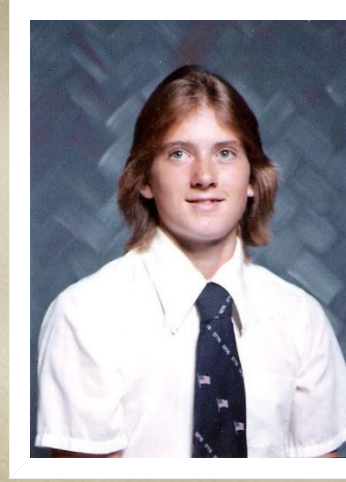
Jay-Easter 1962



Jay with his little red car



Playing Little League baseball 1969



Jay's 1975 school picture



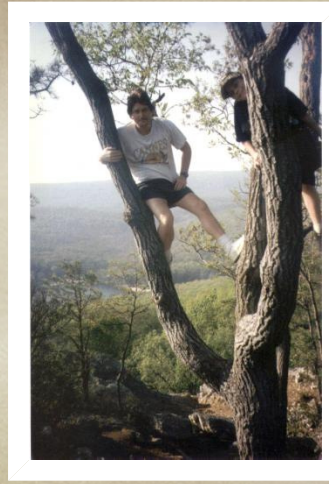
Jay earning pilots license



Jay geared up for skydiving



1980s Bridge Day West Virginia - largest base jumping in the world



Jay in tree



Tiling his bathroom on Jeffery Lane in WS



Jay with bird



Chef Jay



Turkey dinner at Jeffery Ln.



Jay and Steve with diplomas



All 1995 graduates of the Math department



UNCG 1995 BS degree



1995 UNCG graduation



Business trip in Washington DC



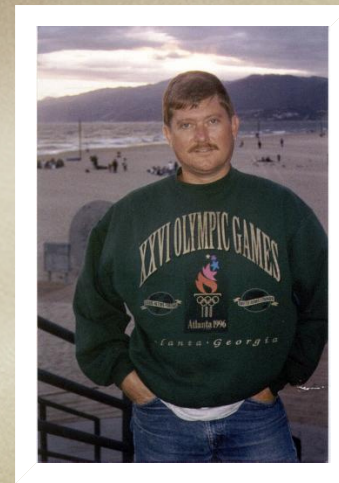
Jay w/ cactus



Six week travel thru Europe 1994



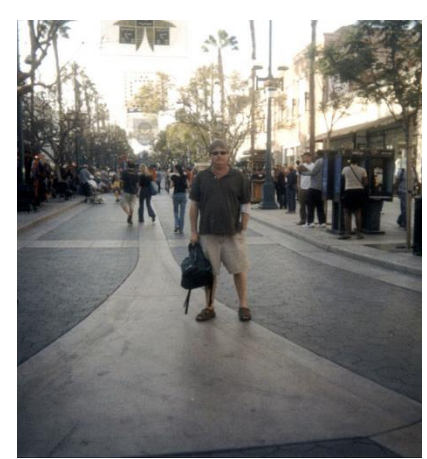
Fun in San Francisco



Santa Monica pier 2002



Jay and Mom



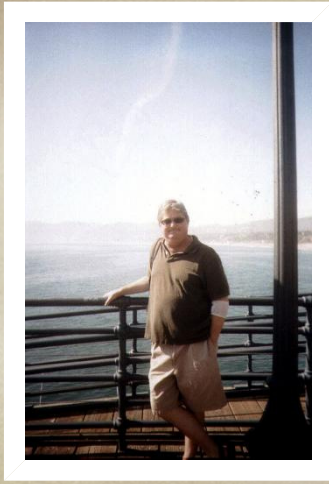
Jay on the promenade in Santa Monica



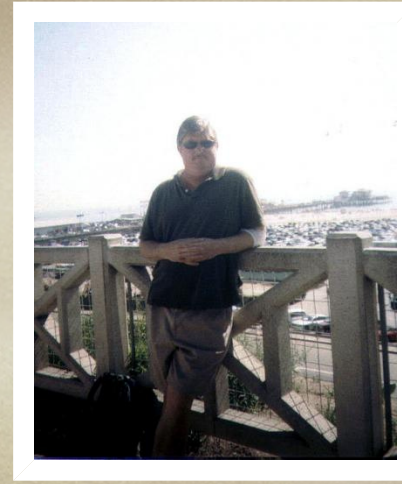
Jay on the promenade in Santa Monica 2004



Soaking up CA sun - is that Linux book? Gotta love Linux!



Jay at Venice Beach during chemo, 2004



Jay at Santa Monica Park during chemo, 2004



Jay and best German buddy, Jochen at Jay's apartment in Santa Monica



Jay and Jochen



Sunset on Santa Monica beach 2004



One of the last pictures of Jay taken at the beach

*Just another flight
All under control
Masquerades in the night
Enough to please your very soul
Southern winds carried you away

Passion fades to loneliness—

Chances were taken
Rules were broken
Emptiness— will I ever win
Wishing now for words unspoken
Smiling at the thought*

The background is a textured, mottled brownish-gold color. In the upper center, there are two roses, one slightly to the left and one slightly to the right, rendered in a lighter, almost ethereal tone that blends with the background. The main title is centered below the roses.

Memorial Candles

our words, your light...

03/31/2007

Lottie

Missing you today— and every day

03/12/2007

Steve

Have the bike, should bought the bug, man! That would have been sweet. Happy Spring. We'll have one for you soon.

02/05/2007

Jochen

Jay i remember all the good times in Los Angeles. I always looked forward meeting you in the Waterfront in Venice. Miss you.

12/31/2006

mom

Jay celebrating New Years w/you & Jochen was fun.You left me w/many good memories.I Love You!

12/26/2006

robin choplin

Jay, i will always remember the emails and phone calls and all your wit. missing you

12/25/2006

Steve Haubrich

Yo Jay....I miss you brother. Remember Mendacino? I see you smiling:) I hope you're having a cold Coors with Pops today, Peace

12/24/2006

Steve

Jay, I have some of your old joke emails. Put a couple of your Christmas ones in Shared Memoirs. Cheers

12/23/2006

Lottie

I always sent you a special birthday card because you said you always got X-mas cards that said Happy Birthday! Miss you still.

12/23/2006

mom

If wishes came true, one more b'day cake from Wilshire Blvd. I promise not to eat it all.[smile] Happy Birthday son. Miss you.

12/22/2006

Ian Worthington

Jay, gonna miss your candor and commentary on Life and Love! We'll meet up again one day! Miss you, Brother!

12/20/2006

Steve

Happy (early) Birthday, Jay, and we'll have one on the solstice for ya.

11/08/2006

Rog

Thinking of you today and the party we'd mostly certainly have over the fall of the Republican congress!

09/06/2006

Steve Bruton

Sean cheered you also. 4 of us marked the 10 years since my bachelor party/wedding, of which you were a part. We all miss you.

09/06/2006

Steve Bruton

Doug made amends via a huge 40th bday bash for himself. There Jen, Doug, Chris, and myself toasted you. Prost!

09/06/2006

Steve Bruton

Planned to see Poison w/a couple buds, including big Doug. Doug had to cancel, so we didn't have a drink for you that day.

08/13/2006

mom

Jay, thinking of you makes me smile, laugh, cry. Your memory is always with me. You carried a piece of my heart. I miss/love you son

07/07/2006

Kenji Nakamura

You always helped me when I was in trouble. You are like a brother even now. Be peace with my friend, Jay

06/11/2006

Monica Diallo

Jay I cant imagine what life would be like had I not met u! I will miss our debating conversations on life. Your BBW 4EVER!

06/08/2006

Trista

hey man you know i will never forget the conversations we had about everything i am really gonna miss you uncle jay!

05/24/2006

amy

The good times outweigh the bad. if you asked me again, i'd say yes. you'll always be remembered.

05/22/2006

Jesse Etayo

It was a challenging and great trip being your friend and having another son. Well bless you always. Will meet again.

05/21/2006

stacy

If I had one last request, Jay, it would be that damn GnR tune on your axe. Life's not gonna be the same without ya, buddy.

05/17/2006

Vicki

Dude!.. Didn't know you as well as everyone else, but I do know you've touched a lot of lives. Peace Bro...Vicki

05/17/2006

Dan Blanchat

Jay, you lived the life a lot of us wished we could. And whenever we were around, you made us live it with you, thanks for that.

05/17/2006

Lois Webb

Your light shines bright at Tech Team, Jay. Say "HI!!" to Ambassador for me.

05/01/2006

Bryan Cater

Hearing about your passing brings sadness to me; but in the time I knew you you always knew how to live life to it fullest. Peace.

04/21/2006

Lottie

Peace be with you, Jay— When I go to California, I'll visit the ocean and remember the good times we shared.

04/19/2006

Tammy

The world is gonna be different without you. I will never forget you. Thanks for all the memories

04/19/2006

Bubba

Jay you know I thought of you as my brother. I Love You and I am truly gonna miss you

04/18/2006

Liz Carter

I'm glad we shared part of our lives. I'll always remember that life and smile and shake my head. I hope you made it.

04/17/2006

Tina

I just want to thank you for being a gentle man to my friend and letting her see how men should treat women. You changed her life.

04/16/2006

Robert Harrison

I will always remember the good times we had. I will miss you.

04/16/2006

Angela Davis

I never met you either...but I always loved the stories my brother Kevin told me of your adventures I hope to meet you one day.

04/15/2006

Trip Hartman

You got me off windows and made UNIX my primary language. You are with Gree and Peep, see you on the other side.

04/15/2006

Andrew Esposito

He lived his life like there was no tomorrow -- that fact, however, doesn't lessen our feelings of loss. Jay is missed.

04/15/2006

Jochen Schmitt

You have been like a brother to me and you always gave me advice when i asked. I will miss you.

04/14/2006

Chris Wright

Jay loved life and lived it to the fullest. We're going to miss you, buddy.

04/14/2006

Robin

Thanks for all the emails, i really enjoyed learning about southern cal,may you rest on peace.you hurt no more.

04/14/2006

kristin garau

Bone! much love and respect to an eternal warrior. -rufus

04/14/2006

Jackie Wolf

I will always remember the good times. Your friendship will never be forgotten!

04/14/2006

Kevin

Thanks for 15 great years of friendship, I will miss you my brother! -Bruce

04/14/2006

mom

We will meet again someday in the sunset of California. I love you son!

04/14/2006

Bodhi

"Life's sure got a sick sense of humor, don't you think so Johnny?"

04/14/2006

Roger Kirchen

At last, a bit of rest for the wicked. I don't know if you got me into or out of more trouble, but thanks for it all!

04/14/2006

Robin Richardson

Although I never met you, stories of you have always amused me. You have been, and always will be, to me, JALAPENO JAY!

04/13/2006

Herb Boyd

We shared a lot of life together. I am sure going to miss you my brother from another mother.

04/13/2006

Marcy Lucas

We worked together, we shared jokes, we laughed, we discussed issues, and we enjoyed the sunshine. I will cherish the memories.

04/13/2006

Steve Bruton

You were a great friend, Jay. I'm going to miss you.

04/11/2006

Lottie

*Your friendship has meant so
much to me over the years....
I will miss you.*

The image features two roses, one smaller and one larger, positioned in the upper right quadrant. They are rendered in a light, almost ethereal tone against a textured, olive-green background. The roses are slightly out of focus, creating a soft, contemplative atmosphere.

Condolences

from the deepest of our hearts...

Monica

Friend

June 12, 2006

I keep coming back to the site to view the pictures and see Jay smile. I can still hear his rhaspy voice. I love & miss him to know end. I always thought I would make it to Cali to spend time with my friend. I cant bring myself to delete his numbers from my phone. He told me many times this day was coming but i wanted to believe that he would get better. Ms Janice thank you for telling me about this site and call me anytime you want to talk.

stacy

friend

May 21, 2006

I was thinking about Jay all day today before I got home and read the email. I could've sworn there was time to get out to California to see you, Jay, but I let the infantile defecation of everyday life get the best of me. You, on the other hand, had a strong sense of what's important. Dude, look up in the dictionary on what it means "to bend over backwards" and you'll see a pic of yourself making a friend. Your parties in W/S are legend- you could really pack a house. And you packed your life with friends. Yours was a life well lived, bro'. I am so gonna miss ya', buddy. Meet you on the other side and don't be late.
-from whitey's porch *grin*

Angela Davis

Kevin McHugh's sister

April 16, 2006

Hi,

I just wanted to let you all know you are in my thoughts and prayers. I never met Jay..but I feel like I have known him forever. All the stories Kevin told me about what he and Jay got up to and how much fun they had flying off to California for the weekend.

I know that he is suffering no more and for that I am thankful. I just wish he could have stayed longer and I would have maybe gotten to meet him one day....guess I'll just have to wait until I meet him in heaven.

Love Angela

Robin

friend

April 14, 2006

Thanks for all the emails, i learn alot about southern cal.May you rest in peace.

Chris Wright

Friend

April 14, 2006

I hadn't heard from Jay in several years, and didn't even know he was suffering from cancer until after he passed away. As I write this, I'm still grappling with the shock of finding out I have lost an old friend. Jay was the kind of person who lived life at a hundred miles an hour. He was good to his friends, and regardless of any differences of opinion one might have had with him, he never let any of that get in the way of friendship. In retrospect, I truly regret that I had not made more of an effort to reestablish contact with him in recent years. Sometimes you don't know you missed your last chance to tell a friend you appreciate him until it's too late. To all who read this, don't make the same mistake I did. Look up an old friend and call him or her just to say hi. Jay: I'll miss you, buddy.

Kevin/Bruce

Friend

April 14, 2006

Jay had more friends than anyone I have ever known. A mere mention of his name would light up someone's face as they would instantly recall some funny story he had told, or perhaps even starred in! His memory and his impact on other people's lives, cancer cannot take away. In his final months I didn't see my friend as often as we both would have wanted, and knowing what I know now I would have done things differently. Time was not on our side and wherever he is now, I hope he can forgive me. Jay -- I love you like a brother and I'm going to miss you!

Lottie

Friend

April 13, 2006

A couple of days after I found out that Jay died my congressman, Tom Delay, resigned from congress. It occurred to me then how much I was going to miss Jay. Anyone who knows Jay can imagine the endless taunting I endured for living in Tom Delay's district! I kept expecting the phone to ring with Jay on the other end saying, "I told you so!" I wish I could tell him that he was right..... which is something I rarely said to him! He didn't need anyone to tell him he was right..... he already knew it! [laugh] Jay and I didn't agree on most political issues, but it never got in the way of our friendship. I'm going to miss those late-night conversations.

Tim Beauregard

Friend/former instructor

April 13, 2006

Jay was a

Tim Beauregard

Friend/former instructor

April 13, 2006

Jay was

Tim Beauregard

Friend/former instructor

April 13, 2006

Jay

The image features two roses, one smaller and one larger, positioned in the upper right quadrant. They are rendered in a light, monochromatic tone that blends with the overall sepia-toned, textured background. The background has a mottled, aged appearance with subtle variations in color and texture.

Shared Memoirs

all the gray you turned into colors...

Beer



Fri, 7 May 1999 16:33:10 -0400

X-Mailer: ELM [version 2.4 PL24]

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Content-Length: 1858

Beer Troubleshooting:

SYMPTOM: Feet cold and wet.

FAULT: Glass being held at incorrect angle.

ACTION: Rotate glass so that open end points toward ceiling.

SYMPTOM: Feet warm and wet.

FAULT: Improper bladder control.

ACTION: Stand next to nearest dog & complain about house training.

SYMPTOM: Beer unusually pale and tasteless; doesn't quench thirst.

FAULT: Glass empty.

ACTION: Get someone to buy another beer.

SYMPTOM: Opposite wall covered with fluorescent lights.

FAULT: You have fallen backwards.

ACTION: Have yourself chained to the bar.

SYMPTOM: Mouth contains cigarette butts.

FAULT: You have fallen forward.

ACTION: See above.

SYMPTOM: Beer tasteless, front of shirt is wet.

FAULT: Mouth not open, or glass applied to wrong part of face.

ACTION: Retire to restroom; practice in mirror.

SYMPTOM: Floor blurred.

FAULT: You are looking through bottom of empty glass.
ACTION: Get someone to buy another beer.

SYMPTOM: Floor moving.
FAULT: You are being carried out.
ACTION: Find out if you are being taken to another bar.

SYMPTOM: Room seems unusually dark.
FAULT: Bar has closed.
ACTION: Confirm home address with bartender; take taxi home.

SYMPTOM: Everyone looks up at you and smiles.
FAULT: You are dancing on the table.
ACTION: Fall on somebody cushy-looking.

SYMPTOM: Beer is crystal clear.
FAULT: It's water. Someone is trying to sober you up.
ACTION: Punch him.

SYMPTOM: Hand hurts; nose hurts; mind unusually clear.
FAULT: You have been in a fight.
ACTION: Apologize to everyone you see just in case it was them.

SYMPTOM: Don't recognize anyone or the room you are in.
FAULT: You have wandered into the wrong party.
ACTION: See if they have free beer.

SYMPTOM: Your singing sounds distorted.
FAULT: The beer is wearing off.
ACTION: Have more beer until your voice improves.

Cheers

Thu, 23 Sep 1999 10:20:38 -0400 (&)

SAM: "What's shaking Norm?"
NORM: "All four cheeks & a couple of chins."

SAM: "What's new Normie?"
NORM: "Terrorists, Sam. They've taken over my stomach & they're demanding beer."
SAM: "What'd you like Normie?"
NORM: "A reason to live. Give me another beer."
SAM: "What'll you have Normie?"
NORM: "Well, I'm in a gambling mood Sammy. I'll take a glass of whatever comes out of that tap."
SAM: "Looks like beer, Norm."
NORM: "Call me Mister Lucky."
SAM: "Hey Norm, how's the world been treating you?"
NORM: "Like a baby treats a diaper."
WOODY: "What's the story Mr. Peterson?"
NORM: "The Bobbsey twins go to the brewery. Let's cut to the happy ending."
WOODY: "Hey Mr. Peterson, there's a cold one waiting for you."
NORM: "I know, if she calls, I'm not here."
SAM: "Beer, Norm?"
NORM: "Have I gotten that predictable? Good."
SAM: "Whatcha up to Norm?"
NORM: "My ideal weight if I were eleven feet tall."
WOODY: "How's it going Mr. Peterson?"
NORM: "Poor."
WOODY: "I'm sorry to hear that."
NORM: "No, I mean pour."
SAM: "How's life treating you Norm?"
NORM: "Like it caught me sleeping with its wife."
SAM: "What's going down, Normie?"
NORM: "My butt cheeks on that bar stool."
WOODY: "Pour you a beer, Mr. Peterson?"
NORM: "Alright, but stop me at one...make that one-thirty."
WOODY: "How's it going Mr. Peterson?"
NORM: "It's a dog eat dog world, Woody & I'm wearing Milk Bone underwear."
SAM: "What's the story Norm?"
NORM: "Boy meets beer. Boy drinks beer. Boy meets another beer."
WOODY: "What's going on Mr. Peterson?"

NORM: "The question is what's going in Mr. Peterson? A beer please, Woody."

WOODY: "Can I pour you a beer Mr. Peterson?"

NORM: "A little early isn't it, Woody?"

WOODY: "For a beer?"

NORM: "No, for stupid questions."

Lottie

It's hard to believe that it has been a year since I last talked to you. Every time I watch the news your running commentary is in my head. So many things have happened this past year. Things you would have loved like the Mid-term elections and Nancy Pelosi as Speaker of the House. And things you would have hated like the continuing war in Iraq and the many political corruption scandals— you would have said the Republican corruption scandals..... I guess I'll give you that! [laugh] My wonderful former congressman still sends me e-mail— it's just not as much fun when I can't Fwd them to you and wait for your response..... I miss your humorous political rantings! I remember the converstaions we had about you dying. You told me once that you'd skydived, scuba dived, learned to fly a plane, got an education, traveled..... you'd done everything you ever wanted to do. Not many people can say that. I remember when I fell in love with you when I was 21 yrs. old— I thought you were the most daring guy I'd ever known.... the whole "bad boy" thing and all! The stories I could tell [laugh] I'm glad you were my friend... and I miss you every day.

...

...

Steve

<http://www.planetdan.net/pics/misc/georgie.htm>

Funny link, I think Jay enjoyed this one tremendously.

Oh yeah, my brother and I have Jay's old motorcycle seen in some pics. We're going to restore it soon.

...



...



...



Daniel Blanchat



Ok, my wife found...

Daniel Blanchat



I just found this video on the internet, and it seemed an awful lot like jay in the middle. Certainly his sense of humor: <http://youtube.com/watch?v=HCkYfYa8ePI>

Steve



Some 2002 Christmas emails from Jay...enjoy

Aaaaahhhhhhhhh.....reminders of the south.....

<http://www.toonedin.com/movies/WhiteTrashXmas.html>

If you are still using technology from the last millennium,
(ie telephone dial-up lines to connect to the internet), catch
up with the rest of us, or DEFINITELY give up on this one!

Later

-- Jay Crews

jpc@jaycrews.com

And where would we be without a Unix X-mas!!!!

(If this DOESN'T make sense, you're normal. *laugh*)

-- Jay Crews

jpc@jaycrews.com

A unix Christmas carol:

0 better [!pout -a !cry]

0 better [!shout]

cat /etc/why

santa_claus < north_pole > town

cat /etc/passwd | awk 'BEGIN {FS=":"} {print \$1}' > list

/usr/bin/check list

/usr/bin/check list

cat list | sgrep naughty > /dev/coal

cat list | sgrep nice > /dev/presents

santa_claus < north_pole > town

who | sgrep sleeping

who | sgrep awake

who | sgrep bad

who | sgrep good

for goodness sake; do

 be good

done

better [!pout -a !cry]

better [!shout]

cat /etc/why

santa_claus < north_pole > town

Early '90s... Jay and I would share a beer at Spring Garden pondering how to break into Dr. Grandon's email account and the fun we could have... Jay was one of those old souls who always had some dry, hilarious comment that could brighten even your darkest days. I managed to get to one of Jay's crazy parties at his house in Winston-Salem, when I was at UNCG. Ya know, there's just no other sight than Jay with no shirt stumbling around! I have some pictures somewhere of that night! LOL Jay always made me realize that no matter how much I was scaird to do something new, that nothing could really stand in my way. Nothing stood in Jay's way... and that's what made him special! I'm glad to know he's not suffering any more. And you KNOW he's got a cold one in his hand and will looking in on us from time to time. I'll always smile when I think of you! CHEERS!

Steve Bruton

1995 How many coats of paint can you put on a ping pong table? We'd have a mug of beer, put on some tunes in my old stereo, and then Jay would commence to some serious ping pong butt kicking.

Monica Diallo

I remember waking up one morning and walking in my living room to find a white man asleep on my couch. I asked my husband "Who is that on my couch?" Well that was the beginning of a long friendship. My husband and I separated but Jay was our friend through it all. I had called Jay a few times not knowing and frustrated that his phone was disconnected. So I call his mom today and she gave me the news that my friend had past. I sat in the car crying as I told my 9yr old son. He began telling me things he remembered about Jay, the house with the red

walls, and showing him how to play the guitar. Jay and I could talk the night away with our debating conversations on life. He always wanted me to visit sunny Cali while he was in good health or better yet for me and the kids to move west. Im comfort in knowing his passing was not horrific as he often spoke that it would be so. I will miss my friend but will never forget him.

Eugenie Martens

Hello from Amsterdam everybody!

I was very sad today to hear about Jay's passing. I met Jay in May 2002 in Venice Beach, LA, where we all had a great time in our beloved "flee-ridden" hostel. I heard about his diagnosis last year from Dan Orlick, back in 2002 working in the hostel and self-proclaimed folk singer that could raise cat's hairs - actually, I have to take those words back now as he is well on the way to establish himself - and Dan mentioned that he thought Jay had already passed away. I said that was rather impossible as I was still receiving his often wonderful, ranting, political mails; unless they came from above and I wouldn't put that past him either :-) I will miss his mails about all that is wrong in the US and also with Mr Blair (I used to live in London until Feb of this year). Well, what else can I say? He will be sadly missed!

Lottie

Jay and I dated when he lived in Asheville, N.C. in 1983-84. I have so many great memories of that time during my life. Jay was a blast and everyday was an adventure with him! Jay was one of those guys you never

forget! I eventually moved back to Texas about the same time that Jay moved back to Winston-Salem, but we stayed in contact for awhile. He came out to Texas a couple of times and I had family in N.C. and would visit. Over the years we lost touch, but re-connected through the Internet in the mid 90s. Jay hadn't changed at all- He was the same crazy guy with an adventurous spirit and a sense of humor. He would e-mail me to say he was flying to California to get his hair cut! That was Jay! In the last couple of years, Jay has become my best friend. We would talk on the phone for hours about everything and nothing at all. It was really hard knowing that Jay was dying, but he had such a great attitude and through it all, he could always make me laugh. I miss you Jay.

Steve

1994. UNCG. Jay and I were in a bit of a bind in our classes that fall semester. It was my last class and Jay had one more in the spring. We helped each other graduate. Thanks Jay, and you're welcome again :) After all that time in school I didn't want just the diploma - I wanted to walk, especially with my bud Jay. What's another 6 months right? All these years since, being able to graduate and walk next to my friend meant a lot, and is a great memory for me.

Christine Dumouchelle

Jay, What a free spirit he was. He did throw the best parties at his house on Polo Rd in Winston. It was a bachelor pad for sure. Garage, nice kitchen, beer decorations and a loft. Stacy was very kind to drive me there a few times to attend the parties. The craxiest thing he did was in the middle of the semester, all of a suddend Jay ran off to Germany for a few days because he was upset with the politics in the

US. i'm canadian myself, can't blame him. Rest in peace.

-Christine Dumouchelle
roseblue1001@yahoo.com

stacy

Life, women, politics and Bridge Day. 'nuff said.

Dan Blanchat

I remember all the parties Jay threw at that house off Polo in Winston-Salem. I remember when he and Johann drank a keg of beer alone. All those nights in the lab working on csc projects. I went to visit jay a few times in california when I was on business trips. He made choices I wouldn't have made, but he lived the life he wanted, and you have to give him credit for that. Jay, wherever you are, save a cold one for me.

Steve Bruton

1992. UNCG. Jay Crews and I are undergrads in Math/CSC.

Angela Davis

You know I never even met Jay but I feel like I have known him forever. He and my brother, Kevin, were great friends and they used to take off to California for the weekend...some of the pics on this site were from the times they shared. They had some great times and Kev has

some wonderful memories of Jay. Every time I think of Jay I smile because of the stories Kev has told me. I am going to miss Jay, but I know I will meet him one day. I don't know anyone who can talk about Jay and not smile...he brought so much joy to everyone. I am surprised about how deeply his passing affected me - how can it be when I never met him? That is how much impact his life has had on people. Every time I think of Santa Monica I will remember Jay with great joy. I know he will be at peace now and nothing can hurt him anymore and for that I am thankful. I will keep Jay and his family in my prayers.

The background is a textured, mottled brownish-gold color. In the upper right quadrant, there are two roses. The one on the left is smaller and more tightly closed, while the one on the right is larger and more open, showing its petals. The roses are rendered in a soft, slightly faded style, blending into the background.

Life Story

every hour, every thought, every smile...

March 21, 2006



May 19, 2006

Jay came into this world in Roanoke Va. on a cold day in December 1960. He and John-John Kennedy, Jacqueline and president Kennedy's son, had the same due date but John was born a month early and Jay, already showing his strong will, chose not to arrive until December 23. Jay was a big boy and grew into the cutest child with fair skin and blond hair and the biggest smile you have ever seen.

Jay was the first grandchild in my family and always had a special place with Gree-Maw (Gree) and Peep-Paw (Peep) as Jay would name them. He would spend many days as a child with them and they had lots of fun together.

In the early 60's as our extended family was not so large we would celebrate the Christmas season together, usually the 23rd, so Jay thought this was his great big birthday party. Hum, one advantage to being a December baby.

Jay's sister Lisa was born in 1962 and they had lots of fun together, including several trips to the emergency room, but this never stifled

their spirit for adventure. Once Jay climbed a 30' tree only to lose his balance and falling, hitting limbs as he fell. No broken bones, only a swollen face The bicycle accident also sent them to the emergency room- nothing serious. Dirt bikes were great fun. One broken finger was all Jay ever got and if he were here now, he would tell you I waited two days to take him to the doctor. (I didn't know it was broken) Mean mom!

As Jay grew older his need for thrills intensified. Roller skating/speed skating, scuba diving. btw: in clearing out his apartment I found his first pair of skates and scuba equipment.

Middle school found Jay interested in Junior Achievement of Forsyth County and he was pleased to be selected to represent this branch for the National JA in Indiana. He came home with an award.

Jay had quite an ability to assemble/dis-assemble anything mechanical. One motorcycle, his first Volkswagen Beetle (I wish we still had it, it was so cute). He could repair practically everything.

Around eighteen Jay took flying lessons and later skydiving was his "thing." I remember when I expressed concern over his hobbies his comment was." I have to do all these things before I get old and afraid like you."

In 1991 Jay and I lost Lisa in a tragic accident at the age of 28. I sometimes wonder if he ever was able to completely deal with her death. He never talked to me about it. I hope he found peace.

Jay attended UNCC one year after high school but decided enough school

for right now. He had several jobs, traveled through out Europe where he made many friends, just to find his niche, and then was introduced to the computer world. This was that niche he had looked for and probably he was most proud of his Bachelor of Science degree from The University of North Carolina at Greensboro which he received in 1995.

Jay's love of cooking was know by all his friends and a trip to the grocery store was important. Fresh fruits,veggies and cooking from scratch- that was Jay.

The years after college I expect he had some exciting times, a real "blast." Mom doesn't know so friends will need to share these times.

I have been asked how he ended up in California. His work took him through out the country and many times to this state he loved so much. In time I think this is where he wanted to live so he moved, sold his house in NC and became a resident of southern Cal. To our horror he was diagnosed with terminal cancer soon after moving.

I spent three or four weeks with Jay about every four months during his nearly three year battle with cancer. I could talk about our conversations, fears, my tears and his frustrations but I will tell you how brave Jay was to the very end. He so wanted to live and hung on trying to do as much for himself as possible. I will always remember his comment when asked how he was feeling. "Oh, I'm still plugging along."

The beginning of his illness he enjoyed walking to the Santa Monica pier and watching the sunset. We neither had to say anything but a bond had formed and we just watched the sun as it set over Malibu. This is what I remember and someday we will meet again in the sunset of California. I love and miss you son. Forever and ever. Remember I said, " You will always be in my heart," as you started your next

journey. Be waiting for me son.

Love,
mom

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