

A SLIGHT DEPARTURE...

My editorial this month is a departure from the norm (not that there's anything normal about me). However, I'm going to be serious and share my heart-felt sorrow for a bit. You see my brother, Joe, passed away on February 8th, after a short but brutal battle with cancer. Now, I'm not telling you this to gain sympathy, far from it. I was close to my brother; he was in fact only one year older than I am. And, he was many things, including a car guy. He wasn't anti-Ford, but he was a fan of a different marque. We won't hold that against him. However, if it weren't for his interest in cars, and sometimes his lack thereof, I would probably not ever have started my long love affair with cars in general.

He was the first one to introduce me to drag racing, and it was a car my father bought for him that he refused to work on, let alone drive, that got me interested in getting my hands greasy in an engine compartment, helping my dad.

My brother was a good friend, a funny and brilliant man, and often times my tormenter (as only a big-brother could be). We visited each other in college, had crushes on each-other's roommates, spent lots of quality time having fun and fighting. Everything good between siblings, we did! I was fortunate to have had several visits with him over the course of the past two months, and I was blessed to have been at his bedside as he took his last breath. Why am I telling you all this, I'm telling you this because this is the reason that this issue is a bit late, and also the reason that the Member Survey that I promised would be included in this issue will be included next month instead. For this I offer no apology, because I'm sure every single one of you understand.....

To my well-accomplished and much-loved brother, Joseph Carl Mike of Bristol, Connecticut, I say goodbye until we see each other again! You were a huge presence in my life and thus will leave a huge void.

You may also notice the heft this issue. No, we haven't increased the weight of the paper. We did, in fact, increase the number of pages to make room for the new advertisers we have. In particular, we welcome Late Model Restoration.

I hope you realize how important our advertisers are to the magazine and to the Mustang hobby in general. And, I hope that you patronize them when looking for and buying parts and accessories for our precious steeds. When you do make purchases with one of our wonderful advertisers and sponsors, please be sure to thank them for their support of the Mustang Club of America. We are afterall THE MUSTANG PLACE TO BE!

Until next month, I hope everyone has the opportunity to get those Mustangs out of winter storage and take it out for a nice drive. I do that very thing when I need a good break, even during lunch!

I hope to see you on a showfield soon!

Your perpetually optimistic and slightly off-center editor,



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MUSTANG TIMES MISSION STATEMENT

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