

When I read about Mat's passing, my heart was deeply saddened because I wasn't able to say," good bye". I prayed and asked the Lord to give me comfort and he whispered read 10-9-17 which is the date of Mat's passing. I didn't know where to look in the bible, but I felt that God was leading me, so I opened my bible and he lead me to Daniel 10:9-17. When I read the scripture, I felt such peace because the passage gave me a glimpse of what Mat experienced. It was such a powerful message, I had to share it with Marybeth Finster and Michael Fay.

When I was framing his photo, I was prompted to listen to Christian music, and the song that came on was, "I Can Only Imagine"

50 years ago Mat and Nita became members of St. Raphael. They both went to mass everyday and sat in the last row on the right closest to the windows. Mat and Nita was a cute young couple. I especially noticed them because Mat drove a really cool convertible sports car. He always wore a sport coat and looked very stylish and cool with his sunglasses. I was a young impressionable 15 years old at the time, so I thought Mat was pretty cool. Nita was so cute and petite. She had short dark hair and she always looked so pretty and stylish too.

I called my siblings to ask them if they could share any memories of Mat. My brother, John shared that Mat was a

forward thinker. He said that Mat came to our home to meet with our parents to sell them life insurance. Mat was a New York Life Insurance Agent. Mat told my dad to have my brother look into taking courses in college that would gear towards computers. Mat said that computers will be the way of the future.

My sister, Sandy remembered Mat's fancy sport car too. She said he was an endearing kind classy gentleman.

Mat did not talk about his accomplishments. He was a quiet man, very reverent and faithful. He retired Lieutenant Colonel from the Air Force, Jeff and Gloria Stone shared that information with me. I am sure he had challenges while serving in the war, especially with his last name to deal with.

Mary Lou shared with me today at the Funeral Home that she asked Mat if he had any children. He told her that they had a baby, but their baby died.

Mat's heart was broken when his dear beautiful Nita passed away September 25, 1995. Thank you Kay for giving me the date of her passing. He still attended church daily and he paid for special intention masses for her every month. His love and faithfulness for her was so precious.

Health and fitness was important to Mat and for many years he walked to church and then he rode his bike some too. Mary Poulin told me that she saw Mat walking and she asked him if he wanted a ride and he said that he rather walk because he gained a little weight.

On occasion, he would call Wendell to ask advice on home improvements. Wendell would go to his home to talk with him and they would sit at the kitchen table. He never used air condition. He only would turn it on when he had company. He shared with Wendell about the last car he bought. He said that he knew exactly what car he wanted and he called the dealer and ordered it and they delivered it to his home. Mat always drove nice cars and he always kept them in perfect shape.

Mat had a love for photography. He liked taking photos of nature. He had a collection of cameras. He bought a new Nikon D3000 back in 2009. I was so impressed with his purchase. He said, "Maybe you can ask Wendell to buy you one for Christmas". I smiled and told him I was happy with my Nikon D 80. A few years later Wendell bought me a Nikon D7100 which I am using now. I showed Mat my new camera and he told me that I married a good man. I told him I was blessed to have such a wonderful husband. Mat only showed me a couple of his photographs. He was really good.

A few weeks before Mat died. I saw Mat reading the Magnificat in his pew after church and I heard a voice in my head say, take a photo of him. So, I did, and that was the last photo I took of him. I am so glad that I took that photo because it has blessed me and so many people. Our hearts are broken that he is gone, but he will forever live in our hearts. We are his family and I believe that there are many more miracles that we will be sharing about Mat and the beautiful life he lived. I am going to miss him, especially, his "Wave". I know that the next time we see Mat wave, it will be a glorious wave.

I Love You Mat.