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Editorial Comment

A couple of issues ago I posted a picture of a frustrated cartoon character pulling out his hair, which was captioned 'I give up!' Of course I was immediately informed that this did not reflect my true character and I will admit that that observation was true, I am more of the person who continues to attack, always charging into the fray regardless of what the fray consist of, but this cartoon character only reflected my giving up on people because as you know people tend to follow their own path. Now as we all know you can only expect just so much from people and I can assure you it will be someone you know (people wise) who will let you down.



So what these comments come down to, is that I'm exactly who and what I am: I will continue posting my Scuttlebutt Newsletter for anyone that wants to follow where I lead in my tracking my dialysis and chemotherapy treatments on the road that is open for my traveling.

Well anyway, lets move on -

One-Year Anniversary

March 12th was the one-year anniversary of my wife's passing, which has come and gone, a time for me that has arrived way to soon; a passage that I have had no control over. For me this event is of a paramount event of importance for me, it reflex for me the greatest loss I have ever felt. I have lost friends and family members but the loss of my wife of 48 years was and is like tearing my heart out of my chest.

At this juncture in my life and the impact of the loss of my I don't know whether I have come to accept her being gone...

Each day since her passing, I must admit, I have been visited by the silent presence of her being near me. Maybe this is because she is always on my mind or simply because I have not accepted her death. In the truth of it, my not accepting the death of a loved one has more to do

with the anger I feel towards the world for having taken my best friend from me; but it is probably directed more at myself for not doing all I could do to have kept her with me.

Before I continue, let me share what keeps me believing in my wife's presences around me -"So long as they speak your name, you shall never die." Dante Alighieri, 'The Divine Comedy'

It was about a week ago, someone asked me why I was so gloomy and that I should have many friends. Of course I had to give that some thought because for the first 28 years of my life I didn't really have any friends, I did have acquaintances and comrades in arms, but no friends; the first friend I made in all those years was the woman I married. I did answer the offhanded query, I don't have any friends, I have acquaintances; and

now the only friend I ever had, was taken away from me.

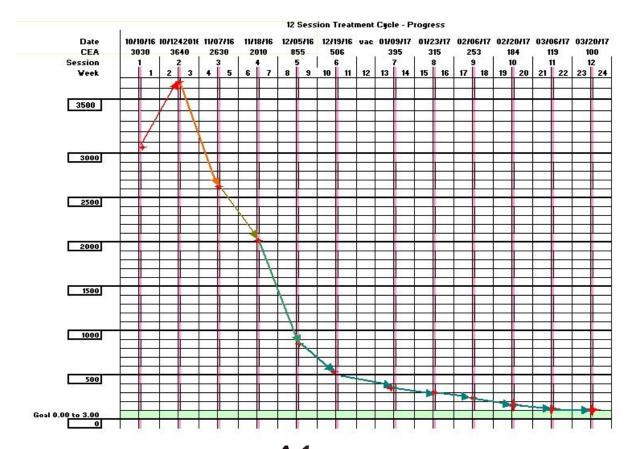
When you stop to think about it, I have been doing dialysis now for almost 14 years and it might be hard to believe but I have not really made any friends. I have had people in all of these past 48 years who have approached me wanting to be my 'best friend forever' whatever that meant, and I have more or less rejected any and all such approaches, well I didn't even know what it meant but it sure couldn't be a real proposal...I already had a friend like that and one is all I would ever need.



Chemotherapy Results

Well that is that, treatment number 12 is done, labs taken and infusion moving forward with me wearing my mechanical pump for 46 hours. Where do I go from here; I do have a CT Scan scheduled for the 23rd of March, I am a little impatient in seeing what the results will be. My Tumor Markers over this 12 treatment cycle has shown a marked improvement, so much that my hopes were raised as to my recoverability in the treatment of my cancer.

Still, I can only wonder where I am going now. Time is something I have to invest in seeing where I stand and what awaits for me. However, as I view the tumor marker count this time, it was obvious to me that I really couldn't say anything that would emphasis the results of my lab test for this period in any negative way, it may not have dropped as much as previous times but it did drop, and that is it, that is all it is......so here it is.







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