

My Friend

Darrell Stolper, my friend of over 20 years, lost his battle with Parkinson's recently. He lived a remarkable life as a husband of over 50 years, a loving father of 3, and a teacher his entire life beloved by his students. His personal life was even more interesting. An avid surfer, he helped introduce the long board, and has one in a museum. He loved Jazz and had a wonderful collection of old records. He loved swap meets and estate sales and collected many historic items. He enjoyed boxing as a sport. He is like so many of us, unknown to the world, but loved by everyone who knew him.

Quiet, unassuming teacher was he,
confidant for his kids, Lynda's match.
Conveyed history for the why's to see,
so, children their future can fully hatch.

His younger eyes from surfboard the world viewed,
longboard possibilities never seen.
Museum asks for his board to include,
his legacy secured for surfing scene.

He loved hidden gems from the estate sales.
T. Roosevelt's signature from Cuba,
unwanted old Jazz record details.
A great boxing match; say hallelujah.

He's freed from years of suffering and pain,
now he can surf waves in heaven's domain.