

Dear Brynteson Family,

I first met Val as a co-worker in VP-44. However; a little known fact is that Val sold used car's on the side while in the squadron. And yes, I was one of his customers. Val personally financed this car on a handshake between the two of us. He trusted in me and I fully paid him back. The real result was that we built a mutual trust in one another that endured over the years.

My most important recollection of Val transpired during the recent cruise several of us went on. I called



Susan & Dick Nevala
VP-44 Cruise 06 - Carnival Celebration

Val in his room and asked for permission to visit. After a bit of reminiscing (including the car sale) and discussing how we had built a mutual trust in one another, the talk turned to spiritual things with the ultimate question being, "What are we trusting in for eternal life"? Val's response was that he felt he was still working on that. After sharing Scripture with Val that shows our own works to be inadequate for eternal life, we shared how God sent his son Jesus as the solution and whomever would call upon

His name would have eternal life. Val said he understood and wanted to trust in Jesus. so we had a prayer together and Val stated that his trust for eternal life would be in what Jesus had done for him.

So, yes, all of us are saddened by Val's departure. However; where Val is now, there are no more tears, there is no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, and neither is there any more pain. And with that truth, I find a measure of joy, not sadness. Thank You Val for trusting in a young sailor and ultimately for trusting in God's ultimate plan for you.

Sincerely

Dick Nevala