

Subject: Ben**Date: Fri, 24 Dec 1999 11:47:38 EST****From: DJWhite5@aol.com****To: etcfm@akron.infi.net**

Tom, here's a couple on Ben. I sent them to for your Web, but that was a long time ago.

1. Once I told him that I knew a bookie, after that he brought his and JSK's bets for me to make. Usually they bet on Mr. Knight's horses running in Fla.

I told him I needed the money up front and the bookie pays off on Fridays. He said no, if they won they wanted their money the next day. So I had to keep a couple hundred dollars in my office to pay them the next day. No one knew that except Jacko, the big bookie downtown. And of course he wasn't going to tell anyone.

2. I got to know him during the first teamster strike when we were locked in. I can only say that was the only nice thing that came out of the strike for me. But that's another story. One evening he came out to Composing and asked me if I had dinner yet. I hadn't, he said come and eat with him. We ate in the Teamster's break room, the menu was dried beef/gravey over toast. You know the army's S.O.S. During dinner he asked if I was Jewish with a name David White, he thought I was. I said no, but later on after his death I found out my great-grandfather was German/Jew. After that evening till the day he retired almost every time we would see each other in the building, he would say, "Remember, us Jewish boys have to stick together.

3. When his legs got worse, he would come to the office and sit on my chair with his feet on the desk. He said it made them feel better. Sometimes when I had a chance I would come off the floor and talk with him. We talked about everything, I realized then this was a very special man and a friend. I worked alot of Christmas eves with him, giving the make-up editors off, like you and others.

Tom, I don't if you will use all or any of this, but it brought back many memories writing this, and all of them GOOD! What a great man.

Dave