

Don Lehrman

by Doug Kent

Born April 13, 1953 in the Bronx, Mr. March (Mr. M) was the middle child with an older brother and younger sister. His childhood was fairly normal and the family moved out to Long Island, N.Y. when Mr. M was 4 years old. After the move his father continued his Pepperidge Farm Cookie route in Manhattan. Mr. M attended elementary school at John H. West and was an average student. He was asked to be on a math oriented television show when he was in the 5th grade. Junior and High School were uneventful, except for his one week of truancy when he ran away from home. Despite this little setback, Mr. M graduated in 1971 from Plain edge High and chose to attend Sullivan County Commercial College. He lasted one semester with a major in commercial art. Mr. M worked various jobs until 1978 when he took a position of installing car wash systems in car dealerships.

This opportunity allowed Mr. M to travel throughout the United States and Europe. Notably, he installed systems in England, Germany, France and Belgium. The work was exciting and rewarding. Mr. M flourished and loved his work. In 1982, Mr. M was just about traveled out, when his father decided to retired. This afforded Mr. M the opportunity to purchase the Pepperidge Farm route. He did so in 1983 and continued that work unit 1990.

Let's go back a little here. At the tender age of 16, Mr. M had his first experience with one of two men. It was a very positive event, and when he was 21 it led to a 7 year relationship with that man and one other. This trio was in Massapequa, New York and they stayed together until 1982. In 1982, Mr. M met a very striking man, who had an anesthesiology practice in Trenton, New Jersey. The chemistry was instant and they stayed together for the next 25 years.

In 1990 Mr. M and his partner purchased a farm in Pennsylvania, and opened it to persons with AIDS. The farm had two barns that slept 50 plus persons, had facilities for R.V.'s, and tent camping. Clubs, private groups and various organizations rented the facility and after a short period of time, the facility formed a business and elected a Board to run the camp. It was a very successful endeavor and contributed much to the AIDS community at the time.

Life was good but that was to change. In 2005 Mr. M and his partner moved to Florida just two weeks before hurricane Wilma devastate Florida.

Sadly, in 2006 Mr. M suffered another loss and his partner of 25 years passed. Devastated Mr. M was in morning for several years.

He managed to begin making a life for himself without his partner. He had been a motorcycle rider for 45 years, and he managed to join two riding clubs here in Florida. He always enjoyed camping and purchased a motor home and loves to get into the great outdoors. His dog managed to provide comfort to him, along with the unexpected visit of a turtle that led to his interest in large fish tanks. He has much to do keeping his lovely home in shape. Mr. M joined Prime Timers in 2000, and has always enjoyed Haulover Beach. It is now possible with all this information to identify Mr. March.

