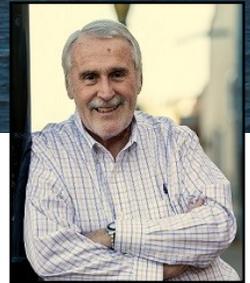


CAVILL'S COMMENTS

One Man's Look at the World

June 2021



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Rolling along.....?

Many of you will remember my newsletters from long ago when I had a regular column entitled *Rolling along...*

It was specifically devoted to my adventures and musings on the open road. I believe it came about after reading William Least Heat-Moon's classic, Blue Highways. That book inspired me to not just travel the roads but experience the journey to its fullest.

Somewhere in the mid-90's I made a purposeful decision to avoid air travel at all costs. My decision was influenced by a number of factors. I believe I had enjoyed air travel at its finest hour. Travel that was gentle and civilized and not crass and degrading. There was a time when air travel was pleasant and unhurried.

In addition, I was fascinated with the thrill of flying, that is for the first multiple hundreds of thousands of miles... and then it wasn't!



Ron's Favorite Airline!

One day I decided that flying was certainly a faster mode of travel, but it was also very much a part of the frenzy I was coming to dislike. There was no doubt I would never have my own airplane, but I did own a very nice automobile and that made me a real first-class passenger and captain of the ride!



Now that's a big chile!

Flying was always interesting to me. The actual flight, the people, the aerial perspective. I needed to make ground travel equally interesting if I were going to be successful in my transition. I began by searching out the obvious, like the location of the Presidential libraries along my route and expanded to things like the boyhood home of Walter P. Chrysler (Ellis, Kansas population 2,062). Or how about that little Elvis Museum/gift shop just west of St. Louis? The owner was convinced Elvis is still alive and he nearly convinced me!

My first journeys were in my car and principally involved interstates. While those routes contributed to expeditious travel, they also made it more challenging to find local lore.

The famed Field of Dreams is not off an Interstate.

After a few years of four wheeling, I bought another motorcycle and began exploring the world from two wheels. By the time I had given up the bike, I had traveled from border to border, coast to coast, through six Canadian Provinces, and 14 countries.



Old Faithful

As a result I had a lot of material to populate my *Rolling along...* columns.

Those adventures began to taper off with my move to the desert in 2012 and came to a complete end with the advent of COVID restrictions last year.

Unfortunately, many things came to an end last year and some of the losses will never be recovered. For some of those losses, there is an indelible gap in our lives.

But life must go on and for those of us in an ever-expanding age group we can't afford to glibly lose a year without making it up! No time to waste! ***Carpe diem....***

Getting out on the road this summer will be as much about breaking free of COVID as it will be about renewing things that have been set aside for a season and recovering something that might have been lost.

My first plan is to return to something familiar. I will be heading to Denver to spend time with friends and family. Sure, Denver is very familiar to me having lived there off and on for a decade or two. But on this trip, I want to be like Emily in Thornton Wilder's, "Our Town". Emily is granted her wish to return to relive one day in her life. It is both painful and sweet in that she knows it is short-lived so she focuses on every little detail. So it is for all of us. Details.

I will try to see things I tend to miss and be sure I keep my eyes open for things I may have walked right past in previous times.

Later this summer, we will venture into the Colorado high country to escape the extreme heat of the desert – dry heat mind you... It will be a welcome relief, but in relaxing I also want to be observing.

I am giving you a heads up at the start of the summer and a challenge to make a good effort to get out – even if it is a staycation with familiar settings. I would love to hear of your experiences before I write my next edition.

In the meantime, Happy trails....

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