

We went to church with the Normans and our family became friends at that time. Nancy was one of my best friends and one of the nicest people I had met at that time. We had a great time together and I even remember that we made matching outfits one time to show how close we were. I have several good memories of spending time with the Normans.

I have a funny story about Larry. I can never forget him for several reasons but one of which is that he broke one of my toes. We were at some church function and the kids were playing basketball. I very stupidly was playing barefooted and ended up being under one of Larry's jump shots at the basket. He was wearing hard shoes and came down on my left foot. It is the second toe and it is still crooked and the nail has never grown back right. Very dumb on my part but a story I love to tell.

I also remember how much Larry loved music and how creative he was. Of course, at the time he was really building up to get out in the world, church music was very safe and from such a different time period. I graduated in 1967 and went to San Francisco so I was definitely part of the hippy scene. The adults at church were very critical of Larry and his music and his long hair. They could not get past this to see Jesus in a different light. How things have changed!!

My memories of Larry are that he was a very strong Christian and that he wanted to bring the gift that he knew he had to others. A gift the Lord had given him. Our church was very typical for the time and who had ever heard of Christian rock music? How could GOD be happy with rock and roll? I remember several times of Larry walking away from the church people because they just didn't get it. I think he saw the LA or San Francisco music scene as being a place where he might be better understood. He had somewhat of a "Paul and the Gentiles" mindset and experience.

I left home right after graduation and lost touch with the Normans. I later heard about Larry's plane accident and some of the repercussions after. It made me sad.

I am glad to hear about how he was in his final hours. No one talks about Jesus when they are walking through the valley unless they love Him. Although Larry must have gone through some rough times, no one can snatch us out of the hand of God once He has claimed us. I look forward to "catching up" with Larry later.

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