

could no longer speak, he just nodded or shook his head for most things. Harry tenderly shared his concern and love for his dear friend, from there he proceeded to explain how much God still loved him regardless of how he had led his life. Herb listened intently as Harry shared how Jesus Christ paid the penalty of his sin on the cross, so he could be a child of God. Finally, when Harry asked Herb if he would like to receive Jesus into his life, Herb nodded positively. After a short prayer Harry turned to ask Herb if Jesus had entered his heart – the answer was already rolling down the cheeks of the hard man, as he wept tears of joy! After that day Herb would often sit on his porch gazing at the church at the end of the road; a man at peace with his God. Three weeks later Herb passed from this life, and went to be with His Lord and saviour in Heaven. At last Herb had found true Happiness!

The last word goes to Allen, Herbs' son-in-law:

“If you read this and you are not sure that you are saved, let me tell you...you can be! Just let go of the world and take the hand of Jesus. Ask Jesus to come into your life and set you free from the bondage of this world. Ask Him to forgive your sins and wash you as white as snow, and my friend...He will.”

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THE WAY TO HAPPINESS?

At over six foot and 380lbs Herb couldn't be overlooked by anyone. He was a man determined to get what he wanted out of life; in fact he often said “the world aint gonna give you nothing except a hard time so you have to take it by the throat and make it deliver!” Herb also had a good head for business; and if anyone knew how to make a few dollars – Herb was that man! In short, Herb was on a mission to secure happiness in life. Herbs' story begins for real in South East Kentucky, where he was born and raised. After the later part of the depression he served in the Korean War as a tank commander. After military service Herb returned home

to Kentucky and found employment as a coal miner. Herb saw an opportunity, and decided to get into the haulage side of the coal industry, so he bought the first of many trucks. By the 1970s with his style of hard work and determination Herb was the owner of a fleet of thirty-seven trucks, and a major shareholder in a big mining company covering four states. In ten short years Herb had went from having very little to being a millionaire. In 1980 Herb was satisfied – he had made life deliver, now it was time to retire and relax.

Initially retirement was good to Herb – he was a happy man! But things started to go wrong in 1985 with a visit from the IRS. They seized hundreds of thousands of dollars in unpaid taxes. Herb always enjoyed a gamble, but really took to it big time in the 1980s. he would often leave home with only \$10 and return days later with thousands of dollars: but it often worked in the opposite direction too. Even though he was happily married with two daughters, he also liked female company with his poker trips. Poker and women became an expensive lifestyle, which need extra funding. Herb took to selling soft drugs to try and keep the finances flowing. To Herb it was just another way of making a profit, regardless of who it hurt. Yet to those who really knew him, despite his hard exterior Herb was a caring man who was always willing to help a soul in need. In 1996 Herb started to behave strangely around his family, forgetting where he put things or even forgetting where he was while driving well-known roads. Eventually in 1998, soon after a family funeral, Herb

was diagnosed with Alzheimers Disease. This was a big blow to Herb, who had always been an independent proud man. His son-in-law, Allen, shared the Christian gospel of the love of Jesus Christ with Herb many times which he always rejected:

“I know I am going to hell, so I’m going to live my life the way I want to live it while I am here!”

Six weeks after his diagnoses things had progressed so far he couldn’t even feed himself amongst other things. By this stage most of his so-called ‘friends’ had abandoned the big man. As you can guess, a nursing home was not an option for Herb! The once powerful millionaire that had controlled a business employing many men was a shadow of his former self. He was now dependant on his own family for the most basic of daily needs.

A month before his death Herb received a visit from the only friend he had left, a man called Harry. It was a memorable meeting of two old friends. It was obvious that Herbs’ health was worsening. At this stage he