

In Memory of Dr. Jay Herrington

Dear Dr. Herrington (Jay),

It is with great sadness that I have to tell you the outcome of the last 16 months of our lives this way but I know how bad you felt that you were inadvertently made a part of these charges against Bob and how all of this affected our lives. I know how many times you treated us in your office and wanted to do anything to help us yet knew we had to wait...to wait for the case to go before the standards and training commission. You knew in the past that Bob would send you dentist cartoons or other Far Side cartoons that you both laughed about, and you also knew there was always a 39 cent stamp on the envelope. The one in January 2007 is when Bob's secretary claimed, he told her to "run it thru the Jail Stamp machine." As you knew shortly thereafter, that was a part of the investigation they started with that same secretary's accusation. I remember Bob and I had stopped at your office to drop something off and you raced outside to tell us how shocked and saddened you were and wanted to help Bob, help us. That meant so much to us. You even knew Bob always put a stamp on his notes/cartoon jokes to you but this time it was different....so the secretary said, and did otherwise. We knew your pain because Bob thought the world of you and was only thinking of you yet it became part of how he lost his impeccable 32 year career in law enforcement and corrections.

As the months wore on, the November, 2007 meeting of the commission came then passed without Bob's case on the agenda, and then it was going to be on the February 7th agenda. I remember the week or so before the seventh, I was in your office and you asked again what was going on and I said just a little longer and hopefully things will go well and we'll be able to end this nightmare. The last words you spoke to me were, "Debbie you better call me as soon as you hear." I told you not to worry as you'd be right on the top of my list." Then, on Wednesday morning, February 6th I heard you had died in your office. My heart broke, one, for being such a wonderful man and how much you would be missed by all of us and two, because we only had one more day for me to call you about that meeting. But, God had a different plan; you were now gone and my heart was heavy for you, your family and your staff and all those that loved you like us. There would have been bad news anyway because this meeting didn't turn out the way we expected but we were still keeping up hope. Bob's case was now changed to May, 2008.

Well, although I can't tell you face to face as I would wish, I want you to know that this time everything went well for us. Bob still has his certifications in both law enforcement and corrections. The Bob you got to know over the years with character and integrity has prevailed. We still have a few more stepping stones, like a job, but we know you are with us in spirit and I want to thank you for believing in Bob and his family, and for your caring. We know you are an Angel in heaven and only ask that you fly with us for the rest of our journey until we meet again. Please keep those prayers going, we still need them.

Love, Debbie