

make sure my kids had what they needed, and they did. They went through grade school and high school. My son's run a successful carburetor shop for 50 years.

What's the hardest thing about being your age?

Hmmm.... (long pause)I don't know... I sleep good, have no pain, knock on wood. I like food; drink an awful lot of coffee – decaf. I have no fear in death. I don't exactly welcome it, but if I died in my sleep it wouldn't make a difference to me. It's just a new experience.

What about the fact that you can't see anymore? Isn't that difficult?

Grace shakes her head, and her eyes light up as if she has a secret. She leans over and pushes 'play' on the tape recorder sitting on her bed. Music fills the room.

That's Chet Atkins, 'Make the World Go Away.' 0

We both sit back and listen.

Saying goodbye to Jeff Touchie

By **RENA LANGILLE**

Jeff Toucie — Husband, boxer, busker, native carver, riddled with cancer, he was part of what gives the Market its effervescence; a kind, talented, beautiful person whose soft spoken good humor touched your soul.

Taught by his grandfather, Jeff could be seen carving under the Market Clock, at Raven's Nest and on the mezzanine one flight down from Rachel the Pig. When not carving he played guitar and sang old Beatles songs.

During cancer treatment he lost his hair, but that was ok, he said, "I got over the dandruff didn't I?" His sense of humor accompanied his battle with cancer up to the time he died May 18 at home, attended by family.

Eulogies

Peter May: The cancer started as a bump on

his leg. He called it a barnacle of life and his doctor didn't think it was anything, but it began to grow. His spirit was always happy. He let me borrow a book of music once. I went to New York for a while, and it was a year before I could return it. I felt guilty about keeping it so long, but Jeff told me it was ok because he knew all the songs (in it) already."

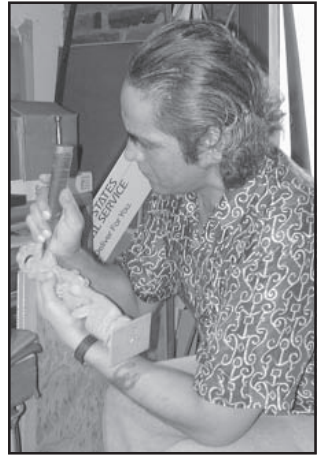
Barbara Brennan: "It was so typical of Jeff to find a gentle humor in everything and set others at ease. I felt that he was valiant in his trying to live".

Joe Doney: "He was inspiring and encouraging. When I first met him I was just starting out as a street musician. I was so nervous and he heard me playing. He said 'Hey guy, put your heart into it.' That got me over the nervousness and into playing with heart."

Emilio Rodenas: "He was a great musician, someone to meet and admire. Musicians – they leave something great behind that money don't buy. He came here a lot of times and was bald. It

was sad to see someone deteriorating. It takes away something of me when a musician dies."

Contributors: Pamela Dobbs, Greg Blanke of Larks in the Morning, Chau Ho, Northwest Tribal Art, Matthew Steinbrueck & Barbara Brennan, Raven's Nest, Gallyn Smiley, Yazdi. Buskers Joe Doney, Nancy, Emilio Rodenas, Peter May, Chris and Phineous.



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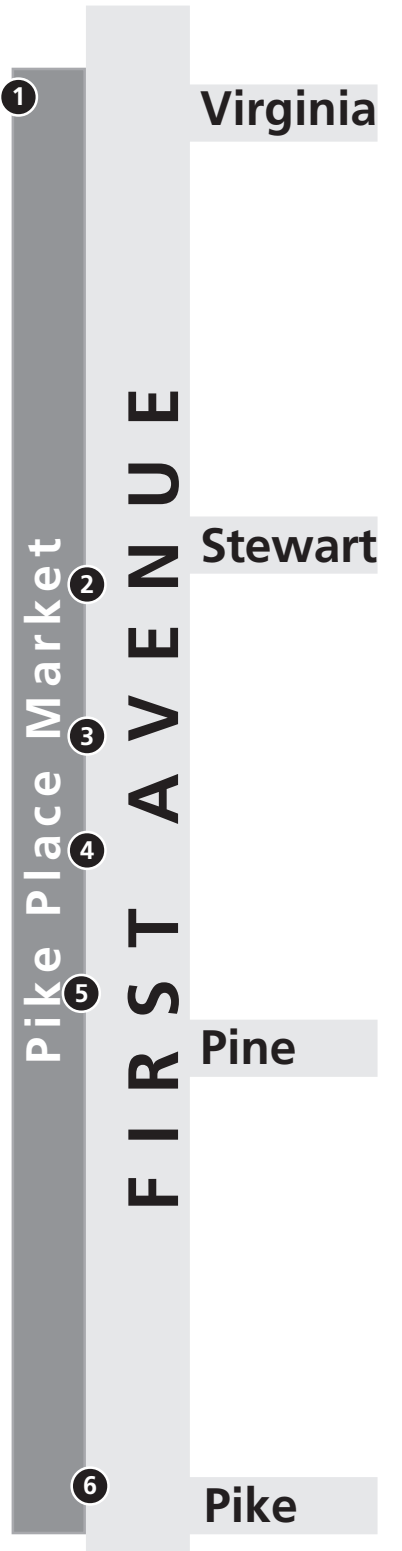
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