

MM Summer Blue Sheet #3 Fourth of July 2014

Morgan's Moment...

We fly the flag on Puget Sound...
three varieties of stars and stripes
red white and blue.
They point to the wind
flutter and dance
brighten the camp attractively.
I pledge allegiance to the flag...
"one nation...indivisible..."
"with liberty and justice for all."
I try to speak the words
and my voice goes silent
when I think of them.
I see a land torn asunder
leaders fighting only to win
rather than achieve national goals.
Passion for health care
morphs into wealth care
earth care into war fare.
Rights hard won lost in courts
money buys voice and influence
wealth trickles up instead of down.
A nation born and built by immigrants
and feeds itself by working hands
offers no hope for immigrants.
I wonder whether we fly the same flag
or sing the same song
or pledge allegiance in one mind.
"One nation, under God, indivisible
with liberty and justice for all..."
Put your hat back on and...Play ball!
— Art Morgan

BOOK CORNER

A thoughtful book is one that makes you think. Malcom Gladwell (you may remember him for "Tipping Point," "What the Dog Saw," and "Outliers" has more recent book — "DAVID AND GOLIATH – Underdogs, Misfits, and the Art of Battling Giants."

Readable, informative, and sensible. Those with Bibliophobia need not avoid this book on religious grounds. When I get home I'm going to suggest it to my book club.

MOMENTS

It was a touching personal life report... reaffirmation of wedding vows on a Hawaiian beach... sunset...25 years with children present.

She reflected...a journey with cancer... all the thoughts of mortality...possible losses...unrealized opportunities...how precious are moments in life.

The shadow of cancer hangs around... like the valley of the dark shadow... mortality knocking... how to walk through it with hope and courage and grace? She does it with a busy family and challenging calling.

If you live long enough as I have...or sometimes even if you haven't lived long enough... how do you live?

She spoke of the precious "moments."

I'm a wanna-be Jesus disciple... thinking maybe he knew something about living in the shadow times of life. Most of the Gospel story is about what he did while supposedly knowing his fateful end. He lived a "moment" life. All those stories...Jesus met them on the road.

A "moment" can't be planned (usually)...it is outside of time...it can be mystical...it may stir whatever in you that feels "spiritual" and it may be a feeling of oneness with whatever you believe to be "God."

I've tried it for 34 years...doing whatever comes next...usually...minimal calendar...no committees. Something always comes next...sometimes "moments."

And when our numbered days are finished who knows what "moments" we have added to lives around us or received along our journey? I told Jean I want an empty pine casket when I die with a sign inside..."He is not here. Take one of his "moments. Free."

— For the Moment — Art Morgan

ENID JONES...one of many on our list...she lived and died (recently) in Phoenix. On Jean's caring list...sent an e-mail to Enid every morning. A great spirit...value-centered life...reached out even when confined in her small living space. Courageous in illness...mentally present to the end of her days. Great memories of moments with Enid and her husband, Bruce.

GRACE FOR THE END OF THE MEAL..."Let us be grateful for all the good food we did not eat. Amen."