

Remembering Rene

There were many events in which I remember Rene – some of which I wish to share with our club.

All of the things that we did together came back to my memory like the first trip to the Indy 500 where Rene was running a little late because he was stopped by the Indiana Police for speeding (110 MPH) and was told that the race was going to be held on the track and not outside on the road! For some reason he could not speak English at that given moment and the police told him to slow down! He regained his grasp of the English language shortly after leaving the scene.

Another time at the Indy 500, Rene was sponsoring a driver, he was successful in getting Warren Reardon, a TWA sales rep. in this valley, and me into the track with him where we were able to talk with the race drivers and assist them with pushing the cars around in the pits and on the track.

One of the many times we were together at the Indy 500, Warren accidentally over booked his hotel room so unfortunately Rene had to sleep in the bath tub.

Another time Rene met me in Innsbruck for the Winter Olympic games and was nice enough to take Brad, my son, skiing and to various downhill events. I really enjoyed spending time with him at the Olympic Games throughout the years.

I enjoyed being with both Rene and Trudi, his wife. On occasions we bid on Rotary dinners and thoroughly enjoyed them together. I sincerely hope that Trudi will continue to come and enjoy various Rotary dinners that we customarily bid upon.

Along with many other Rotarians, friends and family, we will all miss Rene.

“Remembering Rene” by Ed Stahl