

campground. (There is a first time for everything). As Doc had stated "when it's all over then Russ will be gone, until then it is like he is still here." I believe he is right. I am positively sure Russ will be back next year. He does not want those fence jumpers to get into our campground. Therefore, he will be sniping for us from above. After packing up our camping gear, Boots from the state office needed volunteers to help breakdown the campground. Cook shack, guard shack, fence etc... Again April and I volunteered. Besides, we would hate to think that our chapter missed the trophy for most hours worked by just a few. The sun was out strong again and that meant more sunburn even with sun block. April was miserable. We got home, showered and relaxed after unpacking. In memory of Russ, patches are on order and should be ready by the memorial service that Russ had requested at the Armed Forces M/C clubhouse, Friday March 12 starting at 7PM.

On Friday, we arrived at the Armed Forces M/C clubhouse later than we had anticipated. The Armed Forces along with D.J. Ron Allen and Chaplain Tim Howze did an outstanding job setting up a beautiful service. All of Russ's children, can you believe there are five of them, were there. We met some of them for the first time as well as some of His grandchildren. What a nice family. April and I wish Russ' family all the best as I am sure you do too. It is now 2am March 16,2004, time to close so that April can type up my mess and get the newsletter out soon.

Love to all and God Bless.
"Big Mike" Johnson
Pres. New Brevard Chapter of
Abate of FL Inc.