

Camera Shy Seniors

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Derek Corwin
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Lisa McHaffie
Telly McClendon
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Adam Meece
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Lindsey Moore
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Jessica Perrin

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Gregory Renaker
Victoria Richards
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Bradley Schafer
Heather Shidel
William Stone
Victoria Vinokur
Kevin Westerbeck
Matthew Whitehead
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Suzanne Woodie
Mark Yasbeck
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Amy Zumbro

Mark Was Made

It seemed like an average boring sixth bell. That day of school had been just like any other before, and just like any other I'd expect to come. Just like any other class of any other day, the seating arrangement looked as if it had been purposefully divided according to race, nationality, wealth, and appearance.

It was that day that a "senior memory" happened that could sum up all of my memories of school. Around the end of the bell, a voice over the PA system announced the death of a fellow classmate, Mike Throckmorton.

I remembered being good friends with Mike in junior high when he rode my bus. I also remember knowing that Mike had cystic fibrosis. It would have surprised me had he lived out high school.

Lost in my own mournful thoughts, I looked up and around at my sixth bell class. I was almost expecting to see everyone not paying attention, and still laughing and yelling like always. But, I was surprised to see everyone staring at the ground with a confused silence.

I quickly looked around at the other classes around me. They were all in a shocked silence too. For that moment I knew that no one in the school was thinking about what they were going to wear to school tomorrow, or if so-and-so liked them, or how popular they were. Everyone was taking time out to pay respects to a frightening reminder that none of us are really immortal, and to the fact that our school and our world was going to be one person less. Cliques ceased to exist for that one moment until the next day, which was life as usual at Sycamore High School.

I will never forget the day, in seventh grade, when I found out that Mike had cystic fibrosis. Ever since then I began to look at him with a new admiration. Faced with his situation I don't think I ever could have been as strong as Mike was. He always seemed to be the **one making me laugh when I needed it**, he taught me a valuable lesson on life and his memory will stay with me and all who knew him forever.

by Mike Bokatsch

*In Loving Memory of
Mike Throckmorton*

