**EULOGY**

**SPEECH FOR**

**DANIEL DAVIS**

Hello everyone. For those of you that may not know me, I’m Daniel and I was lucky enough in this lifetime to be able to call Ed Searles my neighbor **AND** my good friend. Although Ed passed a few months ago and none of us will ever really get over the loss, thinking of him, laughing at memories, and encouraging others to relate their stories of this great guy keeps him very present in our thoughts and hearts. Today really **IS** a celebration of the life of Ed Searles.

Jessica, thank you for having this gathering here at your house... there’s only one thing missing.... well, maybe **TWO**... of course the main thing is Ed himself, and the other??? Quite frankly, given how we all met, if I were you, I would have had the aroma of pancakes permeating **throughout this house**!!!! (**Wait for the laugh**). I guess I better explain... let’s go back... back... **WAY** back to 1995... we had just moved into the neighborhood and we were settling in. On the second day, we heard a knock on the door.... it was Jessica and she smelled pancakes... she asked if she could have some and, as **THEY** say... “ the nose **KNOWS**.” .... the rest is history. Jessica... did you enjoy those pancakes as much as I enjoyed meeting your dad? Because let me tell you, that was the beginning of one (**can you say**) **HELLUVA** friendship. Ed and I hit it off **IMMEDIATELY** and there was no turning back.... how lucky we were to have such great next door neighbors and friends!! Our families became fast and great friends too.

And speaking of lucky, we not only developed a permanent friendship, we developed a common bond doing lots of things... especially horseshoes. Ed’s enthusiasm for the game got me into it as well, and we played together for years. We belonged to a club where every Thursday we would practice and play together. Can you imagine that we both got so good at the game that we were invited to play in the **WORLD TOURNAMENT**?? We took both families with us and made it all one great big family experience. And what could be the **BEST** souvenir from such a fun trip??? Ed **PLACED SECOND.** I came in third.... and although we were in two different divisions, that trip was one of my favorite memories of our friendship and the great times we had**.** Take **THAT**, World Tournament!!

The road to ultimate ... almost... horseshoe domination wasn’t without its glitches and leaners... in order to get into the tournament, we had to qualify by placing in at least three sanctioned tournaments, and one of those attempts..... well, the horseshoe gods tried their best to psyche us out... eh who am I kidding... it was a mess every step of the way!! One Friday night we had a date with destiny... I mean it was a **FIASCO** at the New England championships. As we approached the campsite, the skies opened and the downpour was **TORRENTIAL**. If only we could have video taped our attempts at putting up the tent.... don’t ask. It was a real comedy.... somehow we got set up and celebrated with a case of beer.... we had a long conversation and bonded that night and it really felt like we were brothers... we even tried to seal our bond in blood, but the knife was too dull ... **SOMEONE** probably didn’t trust either one of us with sharp objects so we settled for a handshake. That night we promised each other that if anything ever happened to either one of us, we would look after the other’s family, and here we are.

Ed had his endearing traits.... he gave life and meaning to the letter “Z” and now I will **ALWAYS** think of him as I hear in my head “**YOUZ** guys or **YOUZ** people....(**Do you want to add**) hey, Jessica, how about from now on we say “**YOUZ pancakes**,” just to make sure he’s watching over us and paying attention... (**Wait for the laugh**).

Ed was also passionate about finding **THE GOOD DEAL.** You think **YOU** have an eye? Ed **SWORE** he saw potential in everything he laid eyes on...we didn’t know **HOW MUCH** he **REALLY** believed this until it came time for us to clean out his storage unit!!! **YOU. HAVE. NO. IDEA**.... (**Wait for the laugh**)

Ed Searles was a great friend, a terrific next door neighbor, and a certifiable goofballi that would gladly give you the shirt off his back.... mainly because he probably had **A LOT MORE** in that storage unit (**Wait for the laugh**). He had a heart of gold, he loved his family and friends, and he was a truly kind man. To Paige, Christalyn, Jessica, and Josh, let’s continue to celebrate Ed’s life.... let’s laugh at his jokes.... even the bad ones... and let’s remember what a truly endearing guy he was. I know his presence will always be with me and my family (**Name your wife and family**) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and we will be there for all of you... Jessica... you bring the syrup!!! (**Wait for the laugh**).... Thank you all. (**Do you want to end with this? I saw the event is on what would have been his 65th birthday**). and... **HAPPY BIRTHDAY ED**!!!