

FOREWORD

I often have a passenger seat view to Shawn's many adventures (and misadventures). We can go through the entire experience together, and somehow, his recounting of the experience, though factual and accurate, is entirely different than the series of events and happenstance that live in my memory. Also, I don't go out in public with the expectation of meeting new people the way Shawn does. For him, a shopping trip is an opportunity to meet his next friend and have interesting conversations. I don't think he's ever walked into a room full of strangers; rather, he walks into rooms full of friends he hasn't yet met.

I've had people ask, "Is he really like this?" or "How do you do this?" when Shawn banters with the checkout clerk or server at a restaurant. The answers are simple and consistent. "Yes, this is who Shawn is," and "I am so fortunate to always bring the entertainment with me." I've never been bored during the 20+ yrs we've been married, and I'm endlessly entertained by Shawn's perspective.

I'm so excited he's taken the time to record these stories in the hopes they'll make a difference in a world full of negativity. As you read and relive Shawn's adventures and meet his amazing and eclectic group of friends and family take a moment to think about how to incorporate more good into your own life. I'll bet there's great stories all around you - you just sometimes need a perspective shift to notice it. I hope your spirits are lifted & your heart feels lighter as you cherry pick the good in life along with Shawn!

Joanna Trautman