

# Cliff

Your friendship, wisdom, unconditional love,  
Taken away and we thought we could never laugh again.

Carousing the streets of Bangkok, careening across clear blue skies,  
A shot of tequila, a Zappa track, a hand on a shoulder,  
a laugh at the absurdity of life, an embrace,  
Compassion in the most unexpected of times.

We now grasp desperately for words to explain a friendship that never needed them.

**AND NOW,  
WE WHO LOVED YOU MOST,  
HAVE NOTHING BUT.**

So we share them with each other, and all who will listen,  
To tales of hilarity, awe, marvel, and wonder, and "you did what?"  
How to live by The Code, to live like men should, to keep 'em guessing,  
to see, to taste, to hear, to love, to want it all and to deserve it all, and to know it.

### TO LIVE LIKE CLIFF HELLER.

All we can give you in return is to let your fire  
burn, burn like Jet-A and lust,  
They are NOT mere words, but flames that  
heat the skin and the soul with tales that  
become legends

"I WAS THERE THE TIME...."  
"I REMEMBER WHEN HE...."  
"I MISS HIM BECAUSE...."

And all that you gave us, we pass around the fire.  
To each other.

And we will not inspire a yawn or a  
commonplace thing, and because of you,  
We know what Kerouac meant,  
When he talked of being desirous of  
everything at the same time.

You would not have left us if you did not  
know that we would be okay. And now  
we wait for that to illuminate our darkness.

Know that you inspired us and left us  
similarly mad, in the mad and able  
arms of each other.

**REST IN SLACK MY FRIEND.  
YOU LEFT US WHAT  
WE NEEDED,  
ALBEIT TOO SOON.**

