

Homage to Michael Moore
marker on paper
St. James Place
Buffalo, New York

While this sketch, as well as a large number of this type of sketches created during this time were more a kind of flow drawing, one done after another, with no real thought as to who, why, etc., was not initially dedicated to Michael Moore, after looking at it again in later years, it reminded me of the Anglo-angelic features of this elementary and high school friend. The drawing has the word "Joy" rather scribbled below the reaching person.

Michael Moore was probably a first best friend outside of the neighborhood circles. He, like I, was also adopted. We shared a large circle of friends, most of them also arts people, with one of them having become a well known photographer in Western New York. With people changing and circles forming new circles as they do, we'd lost contact for several years. A great arts friend came back from California to visit many of her old friends, among them myself and Michael. During this time, we were by now in our early twenties, she asked, "Let's go to Michael's house - I'd like to see him again." Kathy was beautiful - a royal look even since highschool, no arrogance, just pure class - and stellar artist. "Sure- let's see if he's home!" His house being only a short drive away, we stopped by. He'd just gotten home from work. It was after 10 o'clock at night or so. A happy occasion to say the least. I'd sensed that we were starting to share circles again, because Michael had now started dating another close friend from my old high school. We only stayed at his parents' house for really less than an hour - Michael was tired and Kathy had to get back to her brother's. We said our goodbyes and of course knew that we'd see each other again soon. Circles were reforming after all.

A few months passed and I was at one of our neighborhood friends' parties. "Did you hear what happened?" Daniel said. "Er - no - what?" "Michael Moore, remember him - he lost control of his car - drove it into a tree right in his neighborhood. He died instantly, they said."