

My Dad was absolutely delighted to have my Sister attend Pembroke. In those days the female side of Brown University. The entire concept of he, being the son of English mill workers stuck in the Class system of the UK, to have a daughter attend an Ivy League University was a HUGE benchmark for him. He reveled in meeting her “college” friends and talking with them when-ever he could. One such person was Rick Croteau. Prior to graduation Rick had talked to him about where he should go to work, with his hard-earned degree. My Dad was pleased that it appeared that Rick had followed his recommendation and went to work for a space aviation company, that he owned stock in. He, my Dad, exuded the pride of a father for a well accomplished son – until.

As my sister’s wedding arrived, there was a moment I remember well. I was in the living room, in the front of the Rectory, and my Dad was in his favorite chair – a recliner. Suddenly there was the sound out in front of the house of an approaching high horsepower sports car, down shifting to a gliding stop out in front. I ran to the window accompanied by my Father who had ejected himself from his recliner, while saying, **“What in the hell is that?!!”** What it was, was Rick Croteau’s brand new Corvette. Both my Dad and I were pressed to the window as Rick exited and walked around the car coming to the front steps of the house. Those steps were also accompanied by words that live to this day. My Dad said, **“Damn him, he is spending my money on a sports car!”** Which in my mind was exactly the right thing to do when you consider the sacrifices that Rick made to get the education he did.

Later, I was provided a ride to the Church for the wedding rehearsal in the new Corvette. The ride included a slow departure down Amherst Ave. with me smiling and waving to all my friends of the day. Moments in a young boy’s life that provided the inspiration to what has become CALYPSO.

As of this posting Rick is working his way through his archives to see if he can find a picture of him and his Corvette. In the interim, the picture on this “People” page is from his Brown University Class of 63 Reunion, held the year I was planning on buying Calypso.

And just as a place holder, this picture; reserves the space for the picture of Rick’s Corvette.

