

December 15, 2009

Dear Friends –

It is with great despair that I write this to you today. As of about 5pm yesterday the 14th, the reports have come from the doctors that my Dad's condition has worsened dramatically and that his brain tumor has aggressively grown. He was originally diagnosed with the tumor in May of 2007, the very same month we committed to the purchase of the NIA. His surgery in June, 2007 has allowed the blessing of these past 2 ½ years together with us. He has now been given a reasonable estimate of 6 months to survive the cancer. Our God is a very benevolent God and may choose if He pleases, to completely heal my Dad. Please join us as we pray for this miracle. He does know his savior well and is looking forward to meeting Him face to face.

Many of you know my dad, Duey, but allow me give you a little history. I am an only child, my Dad is also an only child, and so my four children (ages 8-15) are his only grandchildren. We are indeed a small and very close family, and we live right next door here in Eagan. Many of you already know how close we are to each other, and how this is a very difficult message for us to hear, especially this time of year. We have worked alongside one another since my childhood. We have easily walked hundreds of miles of swap meet aisles together and traveled hundreds of thousands of miles from coast to coast since 1975 when our Chevrolet hobby started to develop. My Dad (and Mom) truly have servants' hearts and have provided the resources, the business facility, our incredible parts selection, and overwhelming support. They have clearly influenced my life to point I am at today.

Dad is very proud of me, my wife Tonya, and our work with the Chevrolet hobby/business and especially with the NIA. I admire him greatly and it is with this respect and limited time that I must let you know that for the 2010 year, I will not be committing to or planning an NIA International convention event. We hope that this will not affect the momentum we have created through the past two years' events, but it might; however, this decision for me to spend these next few or hopefully many months with my parents is the only decision that is right for our family. I have said that with us, 'families are first' and will live that out here in our own lives. The plans are in place for a wonderful gathering of NIA members in Spearfish this August, and I encourage everyone to consider attending – it will be a great time to relax and enjoy each other's company. 2011 will be the year for our 30th NIA International Convention and the plans at this time are to explore the Michigan area in an effort to celebrate Chevrolet's 100th anniversary. I welcome anyone interested in helping with the planning team for this event to contact me.

Thank you all again for your understanding, your support and your encouragements of our work over the past couple years with the NIA!

Sincerely,
Jody Anderson