

Keeping Up With Clayton! 5<sup>th</sup> Walk Sept 4-28, 2009

## Keeping up with Clayton - The Walking Man! 2009

I knew there was a reason I procrastinated, getting my e-news/blog going about Clayton. Look what turned up in the Detroit News on Sept. 5, Day Two.

“At 90, Still the Walking Man”

<http://detroitnews.com/article/20090905/METRO/909050331/1408/local>

Well, as you can see by that, Clayton is off on his 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Walk Paradise to Hell & Beyond to Ohio for Michigan Hospice & Palliative Care. The walk runs Sept 4-28 and traverses the Upper and Lower Peninsulas of our beautiful state, including the annual Labor Day Bridge Walk on Sept. 7.

When I walked with Clayton on Wednesday, the day before he left, the Detroit News photographer had arrived before me. While driving home, I received a call on my cell phone. The writer for the News didn't only want to know about Clayton, she wanted to know about me. I always wondered what would happen, should the day come that anyone would want to interview me...besides our kids for school projects.

As a journalist, I'm the one who interviews..asks the questions. I only know how to ask questions. Answers confound and befuddle me. I recently heard that it's the questions that are important as we go about our lives...so that pleased me. Something to do with your life taking a zig-zag course, no matter what goals you might set. And asking questions, somehow helps you get more clarity and get there possibly sooner and faster. Extraordinary concept.

Well, most of the information to answer your questions about Clayton and his walk this year may be found in the links I placed at the bottom. You may keep up to date at my website [www.susanparcheta.com](http://www.susanparcheta.com) and at the blog I created for Clayton .  
[www.claytonklein-thewalkingman.blogspot.com](http://www.claytonklein-thewalkingman.blogspot.com)

This will be fun, because you can leave comments and chat with each other about it and keep up with him there. I'm also on Facebook and post a lot there, plus Clayton is on Facebook and would love to connect with you there when he returns. We have a Facebook fan group, as well, which needs lots of members. So check it out.

Well, in this article, I tell the whole world that I'm 66 years old, I can't keep up with Clayton (who is old enough to be my father) and my limit is six miles. Obviously something must be done about this. Perhaps I can top it next week when we catch him up in the Cheboygan/Indian River area. Or maybe on the Ithaca (my home town) leg. It's the Williamston to Webberville where I clock my traditional six miles. The ice cream stop is mighty intriguing by the end of the afternoon.

Last year I stepped off with Clayton as he walked out of Paradise and walked five miles, then took the car while my husband walked five. I also walked a bit through Fowlerville and Hell. Thinking of adding Chelsea to Manchester to the mix, now that he's going all the way to Ohio again.

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But, I'm sure the bets will be on, and I'll be teased incessantly. If not about my six-mile limit, maybe by my loud presence on the road, wearing my safety green "Walking's Fine with Clayton Klein in 2009" tee.

Whether you are able to meet up with Clayton this September or just want to follow his adventures, we invite you to explore all the online information. And remember: All Things Walking! Have fun! ... Sue Parcheta

Footprints on the journey: Keeping Up With Clayton Links:

Information about Michigan Hospice Organization and contribution form available [www.mihospice.org](http://www.mihospice.org)

Here are links to the walk schedules and times

[Walk Schedule Overview](#)

[Walk Schedule Daily Times](#)

Here's a link to Gail and Craig Backus' [EmbroidMe website](#) to order Walking Man tees if you'd like. We ordered a dozen for us...in safety green. We designed the tee, with the artistic help of Craig. The Walking Man logo is an original design by Laurie McDowell of Chelsea, sister of Lynne McClean of Fowlerville, who assists Clayton with walk publicity. The tee design commemorates the 5<sup>th</sup> walk and celebrates Clayton's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday year. Email Craig at [craig@embroidme-birmingham.com](mailto:craig@embroidme-birmingham.com) Ph: 248-733-5488

Front of tee



Back of tee



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