

Family Statement of the two daughters of Michael vann Hubbard

March 26, 2009

My father was not a thief, a bank robber, nor a drug addict. He was a gentle, law abiding man who believed strongly in social justice and the rights of the poor and discarded people of our world. He considered himself a socialist and traveled to Canada to pursue a better quality of life than he felt he could have in the United States. He was also an artist and a craftsman. He used that X-acto knife to make greeting cards for his friends and family with his original artwork.

When he lived in Illinois he helped me with household and automobile repairs and built furniture and a composter for us so that we could have a family garden. He was an activist and supporter of public radio and independent news.

I have many fond memories, as a child and as an adult, of going camping and fishing and building things and fixing things. He helped my son build a propeller car for his middle school science class. He recorded public service announcements for public radio and handed out fliers for socialist events in town. He would give you the shirt off his back if you asked him. He had a very strong blue collar work ethic and was proud to be part of the working class.

It is indeed ironic that he died in this manner, given his views of social justice. He would be proud to be the impetus for change and I am sure that I honor him by pursuing the truth surrounding his death, in the hopes that civilian investigation of the police becomes a reality.

We request that you respect our privacy in this difficult time and that you honor his memory by supporting social justice efforts in your community