

Subject: Inattentive Blindness Take Another Life.

To the Editor.

Date: June 26, 2006

On Wednesday, June 21, 2006 my friend, John R. "Jack" Haskell was gravely injured returning from a short ride on his Harley Davidson motorcycle. He succumbed to those injuries in the early morning hours of the next day. And so, another exceptional individual was taken away by an inattentive driver who failed to use reasonable caution while operate their vehicle on a public road.

Now, because of that brief moment of "inattentive blindness" Jacks family and friends morn the loss of a wonderful father, friend and riding companion. How many more "accidents" like this must occur before the powers that be, begin to concentrate their efforts on the most important issue concerning motorcycle safety?

## PREVENTION!

Jack was wearing a helmet that day. He wasn't speeding or driving erratically, however, he still sustained devastating head injuries. This is not uncommon in motorcycle accidents.

And, all the while, big insurance companies, along with most health and governments officials, continue to focus their valuable time, effort and money almost entirely on helmet use, trying in vain to make motorcycle accidents safer.

Can anyone tell me just how much of that valuable time, effort and money is being directed toward rider safety training and driver/motorcycle awareness programs, which is in reality the only thing that can, in fact, prevent the majority of these "accidents" to

begin with? Prevention should be the priority here, rather than erroneous attempts to force us into trading our personal freedoms for a temporary, and false, feeling of security.

“Any society that would give up a little liberty to gain a little security will deserve neither and lose both.” - Benjamin Franklin

So, today as I prepare to ride in my friend Jacks funeral procession, I feel an imperative need to ask, indeed to beg, all automobile drivers to please...

**STOP LOOKING THROUGH MOTORCYCLISTS. WE'RE NOT INVISIBLE, IF YOU JUST TAKE THE TIME TO LOOK FOR US!**

Take that brief extra moment to look twice for motorcyclists who might be using that small piece of roadway that you are about to enter into. The life you save just might be someone's father, mother, sister, brother, friend or companion.

It might even be me.

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*This letter has been approved of, and endorsed by, the following family and friends of Jack Haskell (09/12/41 – 06/22/06)*

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Scott Seely  
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