

put Carl in that position, except for the occasions that John's 1200GS just "needed to run" and he would disappear ahead of us for awhile. Glacier was beautiful until about noon when a storm blew in and it was time to get out of there. We finished the Sun Highway in Glacier and off we headed east. After 2,800 miles of going west, we were on our way towards home. Just one day short of seeing Seattle, but not a bit disappointed, I felt my goal had been accomplished.

We didn't encounter much over the next four days. We rode, camped, ate, rode again along Route 2 until we met C.J. at the Aero Stitch Factory and our group was now four strong. We all adjusted well to each other. John got along well with Carl and C.J. and a friendship was born there also. Thursday we arrived at the rally and set up camp. We all had a little different agenda to accomplish at the rally so we had some well-earned personal time.

John and I continued on home Saturday, where we split up at the Ohio border. John was meeting his family in Rehoboth for a vacation and I had to get back to work to, as Neil Peart put it in his book *Road Show*, "earn some more gas money."

This journey has changed me already. I know a little more about what's out there and what I still must see. I made some more new friends, discovered new parts of this great country, and met a lot of really fascinating people as we traveled for almost two weeks by motorcycle across the United States. We traveled more than 5,500 miles, spent \$475 each in gas, camped 11 out of 13 nights, and never had to use any rain gear, tire patch kits or first-aid kits. Last but not least, my GS has some "Street Cred" with 45,000 miles on the clock in only three years. Next year I won't be able to attend the rally in Gillette. I want to take the family on a vacation since they have been so kind to let me have this summer to myself. I suppose I won't be asking myself anymore if I need a reason to ride—riding is the reason. It's what I love to do, and I know that now. ☺

*Brett is 42 and has been in the restaurant business since age 16. He recently purchased the restaurant he opened and operated for eight years for someone else. He plans to open more restaurants so he and his wife, Sue, can travel by motorcycle and see a large portion of the earth. Brett's wife also rides and they have three daughters, Stephanie (23), Julia (17), and Laura (16).*

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