

Paige Powell Music Blog for June 13, 2020:

The Story Behind the Song, "Motorbike Mike"

First, a joke: A couple, attending a marriage seminar, heard the speaker say, "Now, you wives should know who your husband's favorite sports team is." and the woman nodded because she knew her husband loved their city's football team. The speaker continued, "And you husbands should know what your wife's favorite flower is." The husband in the audience patted his wife's knee and said, "It's Pillsbury, isn't it?"

While dating a man I met at church, he asked what my favorite flower was. It was (and still is) a **Gloxinia**, similar to African violets, with large fuzzy green leaves, but with much bigger blooms, deep red with frilly pink edges. At a flower shop, he asked how much a dozen Gloxinias would cost. The florist told him that she would have to order them for \$3.95 each. He was shocked at the price, so he ordered a half-dozen. He was just as surprised when he picked up his order of 6 potted plants! We both laughed when he arrived at my door with 5 of them and told me he decided to keep one.

Motorbike Mike never bought me flowers, but he never had the chance, since I was in love with him for about 5 minutes, just as fast as his motorcycle! It was easy to romanticize a motorcycle guy and fun to ride behind him, with my arms wrapped around his leather-jacket waist. I met him while attending the University of Tulsa, and I left him behind in the Oklahoma dust when he made the innocent comment that "the sun creates dust." It was that exact moment when I realized that he was not going to college like I was. He loved engines and liked to talk about carburetor repair. He was handsome, but not interesting, so I was "movin' fast" to the next boyfriend! But, he did give me a song, and you can hear it for free on my website, paigepowellmusic.com. One of my fans wrote me that he was DANCING to "Motorbike Mike" and wondered if he was a real person. Oh, yes, he was!

Great songwriting news! I asked an old co-worker and friend, **Brian Stevenson** if he would play an Irish flute or pennywhistle to my song, "Far From Lonely" and he said "Yes!" I worked with Brian at **St. George's United Methodist Church**, where I still work as Webmaster and Videographer. He is a fantastic musician and specializes in playing the harp. *Thank you, Brian!*

