

## Paul Larson

by Doug Kent

Our “Hottie” this month has had such an unusual life, it made me think of a Hollywood movie. Let’s have some fun....

**First Scene:** It is 1925 and a baby is born in Edmonton Alberta to very strict Baptist parents. As a child he is truly the black sheep of the family and loves to do “BAD” things, like going to movies. By age seventeen our Hottie knew he must leave and get out on his own.

**Second Scene:** It is now 1943; our Hottie has graduated from High School, is engaged to be married, but instead joins the Navy and becomes a salvage diver with the Seabees and is sent to Guadalcanal. Working under insane war conditions, he looks over one day and spots another sailor, their eyes meet, they talk, then touch and fall in love and for the next 47 years are inseparable.

**Third Scene:** After the war, our Hottie returns to Detroit, attends college for two years, then decides to work with his love, and they both become Structural Ironworkers and hang steel throughout the world. Just imagine now, two gay guys having lunch together among all that testosterone on a daily basis, listening to all that male bravado about conquests of women and then going home with each other to share their lives and doing this for over 20 years. Amazing...this is stuff you can’t make up.

**Fourth scene:** Now living in Los Angeles, our Hottie decides to make a career change leaving his lover to continue hanging steel; he opens a Bridge Club that instantly becomes a tremendous success. Now picture our rough and tumble Hottie going from the physical work of hanging steel to the “heady” work of managing a wildly successful bridge club. Can you believe a steelworker managing a bridge club, dealing with sophisticated bridge people, playing bridge, conducting seminars and running large bridge tournaments? People, now you know where Hollywood gets its ideas.

**Fifth Scene is sad:** It is 1991 and after moving to Maui, then to Las Vegas and raising some horses (Tennessee walkers) among other thing, living the great life, disaster strikes and our Hottie loses his lover of 47 years. Crushed and devastated after a long illness, but not defeated, our Hottie moves to California and begins to be involved with bridge again then finally ends up in Palm Springs.

**Final Scene:** It is now 2006, alone and living in Palm Springs, a mutual friend suggests that our Hottie call a friend in Fort Lauderdale, and as fate would have it they began to correspond. That led to visits and finally our Hottie decided to move to Fort Lauderdale with his new-found partner. For the last 4 years joy has returned to our Hottie’s life and he plans to live HAPPILY EVER AFTER here in Fort Lauderdale.

You now have all the information you need to identify this rough and tumble heady guy with a heart of gold.

