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TALES FROM THE "NOT SO" STERILE SIDE!

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By Moe Demers, Comfort Inn Airport Class of 2011

I normally write about Tales from the Sterile Side. But sometimes there are some interesting tales to be told about the public side of the airport too!

On Friday, August 5th Elaine and I were volunteering on the 3 to 6 shift in the newly relocated information booth at Manchester-Boston Regional Airport. We received a tip from a man that country music star Charley Pride was in the terminal. Sure enough, a few minutes later he showed up at the info booth. I told him "You are Charley Pride, aren't you?" He shook my hand and said he tries to travel quietly but that yes, he was Charley Pride. He had just arrived from Dallas and it was his first visit to New Hampshire. Elaine and I answered a few questions about the state. His goal is to visit all 50 states. Mr. Pride was in a chatty mood that led to light conversation about a variety of subjects such as Southern cooking, he being a Sledge, Mississippi native and his time in the U.S. Army. I also am an Army veteran. You know how it is when two old Soldiers get together. You can't shut them up.



Mr. Pride was in town to give a concert for a private party given by the Bahre family, former owners of the NH Motor Speedway. The Bahre family hired him and his 6 piece band to play for them at a party over the weekend in Oxford Plains, ME. He is still performing at the age of 78 – Impressive! He graciously consented to being photographed with Elaine and I. But not before he jokingly asked if the photo would be used to blackmail him, or rather, "whitemail" him. For those of you who don't know him, Mr. Pride is a black entertainer. His hits include "Kiss An Angel Good Morning", "Is Anybody Goin' to San Antone" and "All I Have To Offer Is Me".



Brenda Urban at the recently relocated info booth – Manchester-Boston Regional Airport

Thanks to Sheila Dudman, Comfort Inn Airport Class of 2011, who recently sent us this photo: "This young man named Demetrius was passing through our airport today on his way home to NY. He said he couldn't find his hatbox so he decided to wear all of them. He had a great sense of humor and a great smile!"

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