

6/11/2007

## TRUE GRIT OR STUPIDITY!

Armed with the latest technology, complete with the GPS coordinates, we steamed ahead to the State Park in Charles Town Landing where this Indian resides.

We prepared for the turn into the park, and lo and behold the gate was closed, and a sign said major construction was in progress and no entry! After a 3000 mile journey to see him, I would risk jail time!

Parking across the street in a church parking lot, I grabbed my camera and strode out into the 97 degree heat and 90 % humidity.

This 75 yr old dude, who walks no further than the mailbox at home, figured that the statue was about 3 or 4 blocks into the park, according to the map.

After what turned out to be over a mile, I finally spotted a worker on the construction project, who was the only one working that day. He said he knew exactly what I was looking for and pointed it out to me through the trees.

Arriving at the statue I took my pictures and then my camera battery died! Imagine if I had come this far and had no camera power!

Analyzing my situation, I had no water with me, on the verge of heat exhaustion, no cell phone with me if I had collapsed on the isolated road. I could have laid there until Bonnie got worried enough to call for help!

A van appeared out of nowhere, and it was the Park Ranger, with two other people. After explaining why I was in his closed Park, he determined that he might call an ambulance, or give me a ride, considering the shape I was in. He gave me a ride back to the door to the motor home! He couldn't believe that I had walked that distance on this day, as hot as it was!

Dave and Bonnie



6/11/2007