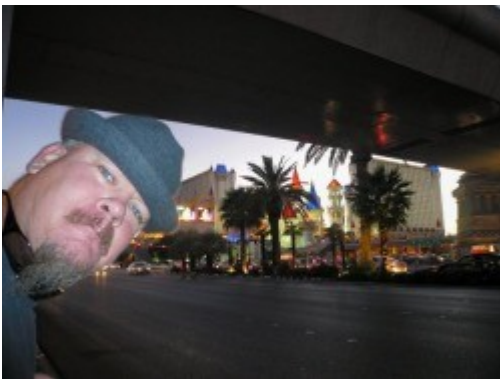




BIO



Nicknames: The Roach, Mikey Knuckles
Born: 24 May 1964, Los Angeles, CA
Hometown: Cedar Rapids, IA
Current Residence: Williamsburg, IA
Occupation: Towerjack, Retailer, Artist
Spouse: Margaret
Children: Sara, Angela

Michael Hall, was born in Los Angeles, California in 1964. His parents divorced before he was five and his family moved to Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Run-ins with the law were common, from three attempts at runaway to criminal trespass, shoplifting, grand theft-auto, and high-speed chases. His father, a Navy man and strict disciplinarian, told him on many occasions that he'd end up in prison if he didn't change his ways. On his fourth attempt, at seventeen, to extricate himself from what he considered a boring life in the Midwest, he hitchhiked to San Luis Obispo, California. On the trail he got a tiny taste of the glitter and excitement of Las Vegas, and being underage, was promptly removed from every establishment he entered.

Mikey returned to Iowa for graduation from High School and to honor his entry into the United States Marine Corps. He found Boot Camp to be exactly what he thought it would be; rigorous, exacting and not dissimilar to the childhood discipline he received at the hands of his stern father. During Boot Camp, Mike's first child, Sara, was born. After Graduation from boot camp and military service school he married his high school sweetheart, Margaret. Mike was ordered to Twentynine Palms, Ca; Okinawa, Japan; San Diego, CA; Saudi Arabia; and various other duty stations. Mike developed his love of card play in the Marine Corps, playing spades for hours during long stretches of inactivity floating in the Sea of Japan, or roasting in the Mojave Desert. After a ten year enlistment, He and his family, which now included an additional daughter, Angela, returned to Iowa.

Mike's first job after his stint following in the USMC was as Tower Hand for a small local tower repair company. After 4 1/2 years, he started his own company, Airway Tower Services. In 2009 he started HatBrat.com, an online clothing retail company catering to poker players.



Poker History

After buying his first home in Williamsburg, Iowa, he began hosting a local monthly poker game. After Texas Holdem became popular on television he was invited to play in a local weekly tournament, which later became the Iowa County Poker Club (ICPC). Since the club began Mike has won One Championship, and 2 Player of the year awards.



Mike's limited play at local Casinos have met with some success, earning several final table finishes, and a few cashes. In a few local club tournaments, he's fared better, winning one tourney in three consecutive games. In 2007, during a trip to Las Vegas celebrating his 25th wedding anniversary, he played in only 5 games, most notably the MGM Casino's 11 a.m. re-buy tourney on consecutive days and won both against fields of over 160 players.

Mike's love of poker found him recording televised games which he could analyze later. While watching playback of High Stakes Poker, he learned of the Vegetarian Prop Bet between Tom "durrrr" Dwan and his favorite player, Phil Ivey. His first thought was how he wished he could get in on that bet, as it would give him serious incentive to lose weight he'd gained after a sports injury. Later, after reading of Ivey's buyout of the prop and a blog where Dwan was asking for recommendations for charities he decided to challenge Dwan to a Veg Prop re-boot. In addition to the \$1 Million vegetarian bet, Mike hopes to raise \$1 Million for his local library, by losing 100 lbs.