

every car... look early Wednesday... he was to... of Eads was

David... Fayette-Ware... The Senior Award... money, scheduled... was post

Protoplasm Press

2

IMITATION

50¢

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CRAB MEAT

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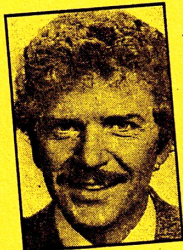
# Actor Robert Reed, 'Brady' dad, dies of cancer at 59

Los Angeles Times

PASADENA — Actor Robert Reed, patriarch of television's *The Brady Bunch*, died Tuesday night of intestinal cancer. He was 59.

Although Reed will forever be Mike Brady in viewers' minds, he was a veteran actor who worked in all facets of acting.

He also portrayed the son and



Robert Reed

Robert Rietz in Highland Park... studied at North

The *Brady Bunch* is still making new through a satirical show and new behind-the-scenes book written by Barry Williams, the actor who played Greg Brady. Born Jan. 19, 1924, in Highland Park, he studied at North

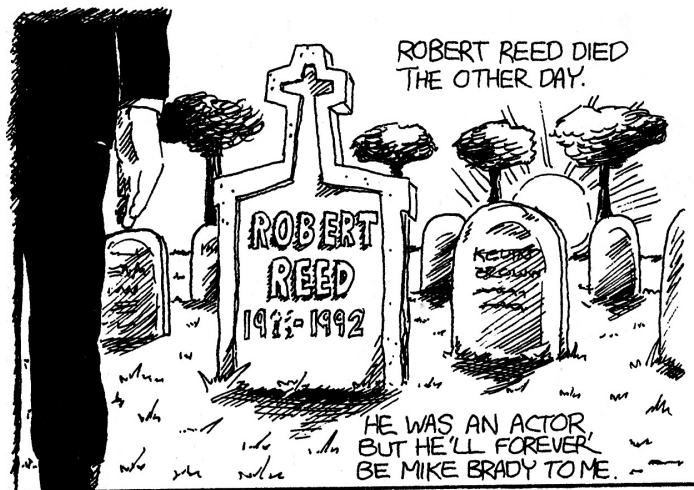
## Imitation Crab Meat

Well, back again. Thanks to all of you who wrote in with comments on #1, "Roasting Chestnuts." I really was amazed by the response, and excited, too. It proved I can go outside of "traditional" comics material and still get results. This issue came up on the spur of the moment, much like #1. I took considerably more time on the art, though...couldn't have Bradys not look like Bradys, could I?

There's more in the works...A "Giant-Size" #3 will be coming late this summer or early this fall...ICM will be magazine size for that issue only, because the art is really ornate and I don't want to reproduce it. I've also plans in the works to adapt the letters of my Dutch pen-pal into comics form, and am looking for an artist who'd be willing to tackle this. Any takers? Well, Thanks for reading Crab Meat, and drop me a line! Love to hear your comments on "Eulogy For A Brady."

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nik Dirga". The signature is stylized with a large, looped "D" at the beginning and a long, sweeping underline.

**Imitation Crab Meat No. 2, May, 1992.** Published occasionally by Protoplasm Press. All contents © 1992 Nik Dirga. Any resemblances to persons real or imaginary is well-founded. Additional copies can be had for 50 cents each from Protoplasm Press, PO Box 2230, University, MS 38677.



## Eulogy for a Brady

by  
Nik  
Dirga  
5/92



I'M TALKING ABOUT THE MAN WHO PLAYED AMERICA'S ULTIMATE DAD ON THE "BRADY BUNCH."

YOU KNOW MR. BRADY? WHO DIDN'T?

2



I KNOW IT SOUNDS KINDA STUPID,  
BUT WHEN I HEARD HE DIED, A  
PART OF MY CHILDHOOD DIED WITH  
HIM.

ADMIT IT: HOW MANY OF YOU  
REMEMBER THE EPISODE WHEN  
GREG DYED HIS HAIR ORANGE,

OR WHEN CINDY  
COULDN'T STOP  
LYING?



I SAW ELVIS  
YESTER-URK!!



OR MY PERSONAL  
FAVORITE, THE  
ONE WHERE THE  
BRADYS WENT  
CAMPING AND  
THE TENT  
COLLAPSED!

YEP, MR. BRADY WAS THE SORT OF  
DAD YOU'D PLAY BASEBALL WITH,  
OR WOULDN'T BE EMBARRASSED  
TO INTRODUCE TO YOUR FRIENDS.



SIMPLY PUT, HE WAS THE  
COOLEST DAD IN THE  
UNIVERSE. WARD CLEAVER  
HAD NOTHING ON HIM.



MIKE WOULD NEVER WEAR  
A SUIT 24 HOURS A DAY  
LIKE WARD DID.

4

LET'S NOT FORGET  
THAT GROOVY HOUSE!

I ALWAYS DREAMED  
OF SLIDING DOWN  
THAT BANNISTER!

I'M SURE  
ALICE WOULD'VE  
BEEN PISSED!

AND OF COURSE,  
WHO COULD  
FORGET MARCIA,  
THE ONLY  
GIRL WHO  
COULD LOOK  
SEXY IN  
BELL BOTTOMS!

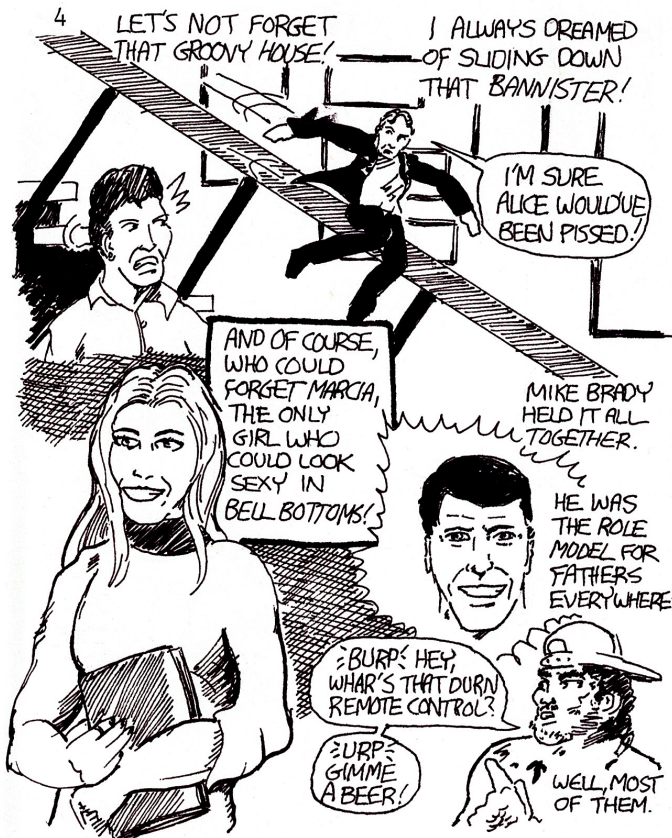
MIKE BRADY  
HELD IT ALL  
TOGETHER.

HE WAS  
THE ROLE  
MODEL FOR  
FATHERS  
EVERYWHERE!

⚡BURP⚡ HEY,  
WHAR'S THAT DURN  
REMOTE CONTROL?

⚡BURP⚡  
GIMME  
A BEER!

WELL, MOST  
OF THEM.



5  
I GUESS WHEN I HEARD ROBERT REED DIED,  
I FELT A BIT LIKE MY OWN FATHER DIED...

...WHO, BY THE WAY, HAS A VERY STRONG  
RESEMBLANCE TO MR. BRADY!

MR. BRADY

I'M NOT JOKING!

CHECK IT  
OUT!



MY  
DAD



LOOKING UP  
MARCIA'S SKIRT

MAYBE I'M  
REALLY  
A BRADY KID!!



KINDA LIKE  
BEING THE  
FIFTH  
BEATLE,  
MAYBE...

WITH NIK DIRGA  
LAS-BINKY

6

REED WAS ONLY  
59 WHEN HE DIED.

ACCORDING TO HIS  
DEATH CERTIFICATE,  
HIS ILLNESS WAS LINKED  
TO THE HIV VIRUS.

MAYBE IT'S TRUE, MAYBE  
NOT.

DOES IT REALLY  
MATTER?



I THINK I'VE SAID  
MY PIECE. I'M NOW  
GOING TO SEE IF I  
CAN FIND A "BRADY  
BUNCH" RERUN ON  
TV, AND FORGIVE  
ME IF, WHEN I HEAR  
THAT LINE IN THE  
THEME SONG, "IT'S A  
STORY OF A MAN  
NAMED BRADY, WHO  
WAS LIVING WITH  
THREE BOYS OF  
HIS OWN..."



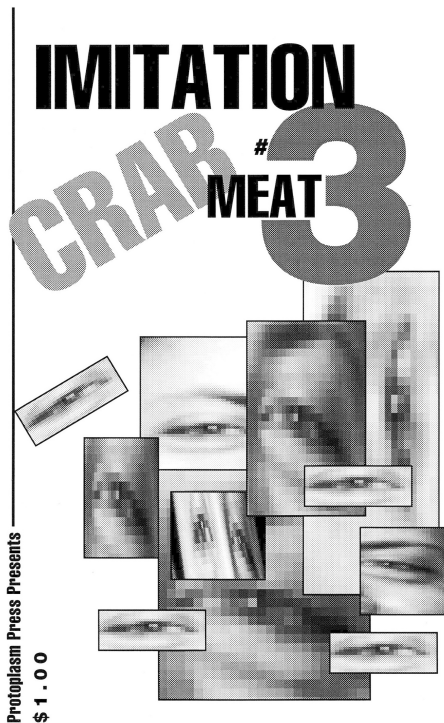
FORGIVE ME IF, WHEN  
I HEAR THAT LINE, I  
SING ALONG.

MR. BRADY WOULD'VE  
LIKED IT THAT WAY. **end**



## 2020 Bonus Features

I thought about doing an 'Imitation Crab Meat' #3 for ages but it never quite happened. Here's a few cover designs I fiddled with over the years.



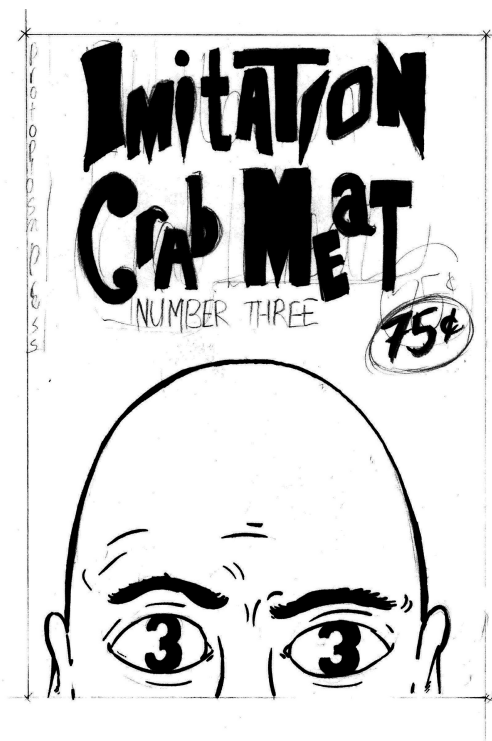
Protoplasm Press Presents  
\$1.00

Eventually Imitation Crab Meat #3 turned into "Spongehead," a short zine collection of my newspaper columns and a few random comic strips in 1994.

protoplasm press presents  
**SPONGEHEAD**  
a collection of columns and stuff • number One • 50¢



Imitation Crab Meat #3 might have included several short strips, including the never-finished "Nebuchadnazzar" 4-page comic from 1991, seen on the following pages.



# NEBUCHADNEZZAR

NK '91



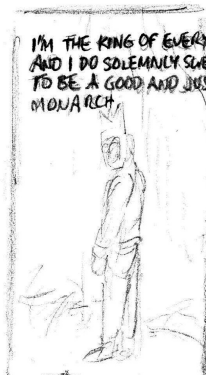
I'M THE KING  
OF THE WORLD!

AND IT BEFITS  
A KING TO WEAR  
A NOBLE CROWN,  
THEN, DOESN'T IT?

AHHHHH...  
IT'S ALL WORTH  
IT NOW, THE  
CHILL NIGHTS  
SLOWLY BEING  
FROZEN STIFF,  
THE NUMB-  
NESS, THE PAIN...

TO KNOW THAT  
I ALONE HAVE  
DONE WHAT  
NO MAN HAS  
DONE --

I'M THE KING OF EVERYTHING  
AND I DO SOLEMNLY SWEAR  
TO BE A GOOD AND JUST  
MONARCH.



WITH THESE HANDS I HOLD THE  
UNIVERSE! I DECREE A WEEK  
OF SATURDAYS, THAT ALL  
THE KILLING STOP, THAT  
ALL PAIN AND HURTING END, THAT  
NO ONE EVER BE LONELY AGAIN,



THAT LIKE  
JELLO IS  
OUTLAWED...

YES, A LESSER MAN  
MIGHT BE A LESSER  
RULER, IT'S TRUE.



BUT I PLEDGE NOT  
TO LOSE PERSPECTIVE!  
TO TREAT EVERYONE  
FAIRLY (EXCEPT  
FOR THOSE I  
DON'T LIKE)

NOW,

IT'S MINE.

