

To Whom It May Concern:

I have known and been a friend to Dave Koenig for well over 15 years. Now that I look back, it is not clear how we first met, but it was likely over a scrabble board at some tournament or some casual games with mutual friends like Scott Appel, Dominic Grillo, and Evan Berofsky. But I got to know Dave outside the world of scrabble and we became close friends. I liked Dave from the moment I got to know him primarily because of his intellect and knowledge about random subjects. I remember he once gave me a mini-lecture about the differences between beers, ales and stouts that was highly detailed and informative. At the time he was a math teacher in Englewood, NJ, and I sought him out for scrabble games because he was strong player with excellent analytic board vision and a solid word knowledge. I believe there was even a feature article about him in the NJ Monthly Magazine at the time.

If Dave has any character flaws, it is that he is honest and true to a fault. His word is impeccable, and he will call it as it is even if it means he will be viewed askance. I have never known him to tell a lie or shy away from speaking truth. Reputationally, it could be argued that his directness and willingness to not hold back may have caused some disquiet in his dealings with other players. In all the time I have known him, he was always well-mannered and polite. Dave can be sarcastic and caustic with his wit and words, but he is not and has never been a violent person. Like anyone else, Dave is far from perfect, but he will not misrepresent facts even to save himself.

Augustine Adda