

HANDICAPPED

596

By James Collins

The Kollsman engineering group was to meet at Lockheed Martin in California. Four people were involved in the scheduled meeting. The manager from Lockheed planned to pick up three of the engineers at the airport and take them directly to the meeting at eight o'clock. Mike Wenn, the senior Kollsman manager arrived the previous day and was driving from another vendor. He had the rental car. Mike arrived around 9:30 and attended the meeting until it ended at 3:30.

After all the goodbyes, the group went out into the central parking lot to get Mike's car and head back to the hotel. The parking lot had several thousand cars due to the size of the facility. Mike told them it was a brown Chevy but he forgot exactly where he parked it. The group walked up and down the lanes of cars looking for the brown Chevy with no success. They went back to security at the front door and explained their dilemma. Security advised them to go out and get coffee at a local donut shop and comeback about 430 because the main dayshift would have cleared the parking lot by that time. They took his advice walked across the street had coffee and donuts and at the allocated time returned to the parking lot. Now three quarters of the cars had left but there were still a couple of hundred cars scattered throughout the lot. They again went up and down the rows but could not find the brown Chevy. Once again, they went back to security to explain what happened. This time security advised them to get a taxi and go to the hotel, find a place for supper and comeback about 10 o'clock. By that time, security advised them, there would be nobody left in the facility except the janitors and security.

The little group followed securities advice and at 10 o'clock returned to the almost empty lot. There were less than 20 cars in the voluminous parking lot. One car was all by itself in the middle of a large parking area. The remaining cars grouped together in a small lot near the security office. Feeling relieved, they walked over to the lonely car, which turned out to be a green Chevy. It was at this point they discovered that Mike was colorblind. Even though he been in the company for 25 years he had never disclosed this weakness to anyone. After this event, everyone knew his secret.

THE END