



### Autobiography Assistance – Pro Bono

I designed and typeset an autobiography for Pat Liston, a local St. Louis music icon of the classic rock genre, entitled *13 Note to Life: A Life of Poetry and Melancholy Rhyme*. The book (self-published in December 2016) is a running narrative of stories throughout his life interwoven with imagery and snapshots. While additional editors assisted in review, I was the primary text editor of the original manuscript.

Mr. Liston wrote the book and supplied all the images (indicating what text he wanted them near). He wrote each story in own voice as if he was sitting in front of you, telling his stories. Mr. Liston writes like he speaks — emphatically — which means there were a lot of ellipses, LOLs, multiple exclamation points, and incomplete or run-on sentences. Since I'd had plenty of conversations with him and knew his voice, I was able to smooth out the rough spots. There were also no indications of where one story ended and the next began and I added those.

In all, I designed the layout (look/feel, margins, style sheets, etc.), edited the text for basic grammar and consistency, added story breaks and eventually section headings where Mr. Liston wanted them, formatted the photos and inserted them into the layout where requested. Sometimes I would offer phrasing suggestions when he was stuck on a thought concept and having trouble clearly stating his message.

His wife took the cover photo, but I did some Photoshop work to build the cover art including superposing his logo into the background.

