

IN MEMORY OF PAUL KRAPF:

Some thoughts about a great American artist



Sam: (*glancing at the computer screen near him while sipping a macchiato*) What I admire about the art of Paul Krapf is that he erases the boundaries between the spiritual and the sensual. His canvases feel alive, even though many of them were created years or decades ago.

Tim: (*nodding slowly*) I never had the honor of meeting him. Clearly, his art suggests a deep love for the world of nature and a sense of the sacredness of ordinary things.

Kris: (*leaning forward, then winking at Sam coyly*) Honestly, I think he was a better artist than Norman Rockwell. Convenient labels cannot describe his art. Sadly, he is mostly overlooked. How fickle fame is!

Ted: (*leaning back, weighing his words slowly*) I think of Norman Rockwell as more of a graphic ethnographer than an artist. His visual depictions offered valuable snapshots of the myths and realities of 20th century American life. However, in terms of painting skill, Paul Krapf was surely greater. In terms of marketing savvy, however, Norman Rockwell was par excellent.