

Hi Guys,

As most of you will know by now, Ted Hayes passed away last week. What you may not know is that Ted was rich. That is, he had the things that make a man rich. He had a lifetime's memories of living life to the full. He had a neverending sense of humour, no matter what his personal circumstances. He had a passion in life, motorcycles, and sidecar racing in particular.

Ted was what we affectionately like to call "A Character". An Aussie through and through with a larrikin past. And he had a generous nature that just naturally made him friends. You simply liked the man as soon as you met him, unless you were a copper. Heck, maybe even some of them liked him. They let him go often enough.

Ted recently hung up his leathers. His voice was "shakey" when he told me he was doing that. It hurt. But he told me he was not retiring from racing. Just that he would no longer pilot his sidecar. He started a facebook page devoted to QEMSC Racing. He volunteered for The Stanthorpe Working Bee. He set up a display at Lakeside to attract more members to our club. He had planned a display at the Story Bridge Concourse to promote us. He was organising for his sidecar to be used in upcoming race meets. He attended the MQ Scrutineering Course so he could help out at race meetings. Ted was the kind of man who would give you the shirt off his back and then help you button it up.

Ted was rich, just not in the way the banks like. And for many of us in the club "Bank" isn't a happy word for us either. Fortunately, a lot of us have family there who'll sell off our houses, close out our bank accounts and give us a decent send off. Ted also has family, but there is no real assets or bank accounts to help with this sendoff. His closest family, his boys, Mike and Matt, are struggling to get by just now. Many of you

will be aware that Ted's grandson has been diagnosed with a rare form of cancer at age 5. The cost of this has been crippling for the family. But what price do you put on the life of a 5 year old kid ? It's whatever you have and then a lot more.

Bearing these things in mind the club has broken tradition and offered \$500 towards the burial costs for Ted. We haven't done this in the past but it was felt by the members that Ted and his particular circumstances warranted "Special Merit". At the same meeting the hat was passed around and a further \$755 was gathered in a flash. Many told me they just hadn't brought more money to the meeting and just gave what they had.

So members who weren't at the meeting, or like me, only had a zac in my pocket, are able to donate, the BSB and Account number are below to make donations as painless as possible. Glynn, our treasurer can accept any other forms of donations as well.

A/C Name: Qld Early Motorcycle Sports Club    BSB: 124001  
A/C No: 10419361 ( Please put Ted Hayes as the reference )

Please. please, don't feel obligated to donate anything. Neither Ted nor his family would want anyone to donate anything out of anything other than respect for Ted as a Man.

Rest In Peace Ted.

Cheers  
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