

Elmer Symons raced motorcycles and had extraordinary talent in that field. He was a champion. Though racing is what Elmer did, the titles fall far, far short of defining him.

Elmer had an unparalleled lust for life. He lived more in one day than most do in a week or month. It was amazing to watch him set and accomplish goals throughout each day. From an onlookers perspective you might say, "Elmer, slow down man. You can only do so much." The amazing thing is that he could do it and did. He raced, prepped bikes, met new people, formed new relationships, drove all over the country, spoke on the phone with friends, struggled and strove for success, whilst planning the next day, week or year. At the end of the day while nodding off in his dinner plate, he'd be thinking "I know I must sleep, but if I could just skip it, there is so much I'd like to be doing right now." He continually challenged himself and those around him. From nothing, he scratched and pulled it together to live the dream of being the best that he could be.

Elmer was excited every minute of every day. He strove for something greater. Reaching one goal opened the doorway for many more in his eyes. While obtaining success was satisfying, his true reward lay in gauging tomorrow's possibilities and forming a plan to realize them. He was courageous in his pursuit and an inspiration.

Yes, Elmer was driven and at first glance you might think that he had no time for anything else. Not so. Elmer made time for the things in life that really mattered. He always had a ready smile or a friendly "chirp" for friends and family. Personal relationships were a priority and it was more the norm than an exception for Elmer to go hours or miles out of his way to "show face" and say hello. He motivated, helped, and encouraged people he knew or met, irregardless of their station. He held consideration for others closely and often showed it by bringing back a gift or memento from his travels. Elmer truly cared about everyone's good time, not just his own. Even when under tremendous pressure, he made time to laugh and share the pleasure of life.

Elmer competed on the race course and in life. With Elmer it wasn't to win at all costs, but to compete to the benefit of all involved. In his good hearted nature, he prompted challenges and smiled through the experience: "Can you do flip into the swimming pool?", "Care for a footrace to the top of the hill?", "Let's ride bicycles up that mountain.", "Who do you think weighs more or less?" He personified the spirit of competition and spending time with him was fun, more often than not, it was funny as well.

My thoughts of Elmer are of him winning. Surely winning races and championships are included, but more profound are thoughts of Elmer winning the day. With a joke, smile, or friendly challenge, Elmer represented an inspiring example of life. Elmer is sorely missed, but I cling to the belief that, at this moment, Elmer is still winning.

Troy Walker

Philip,

Sharon and I are so very saddened by the loss of Elmer. I have no way to imagine how difficult this must be for you and your family.

Elmer's positive attitude, dedication to his goals, and easy smile were inspirations to all who knew him. I will never forget how excited he was about your coming to visit him this past summer. When I met you in North Carolina, the bond that you and Elmer shared as brothers was apparent. I hope that my children grow to have the same level of respect and admiration for each other that you and Elmer obviously shared. Your steadfast support for him reaching his goal of Dakar meant so much to him and he spoke of it often.

My home was always open to Elmer, and I would extend the same invitation to you and your family. If there is anything at all we can do to assist you in any way, please contact us. We will be there for you should you need us.

Warmest Regards,  
Dale and Sharon Cooke

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I wanted to send a note and offer my condolences and tell you how sad we are that Elmer has passed. I am sure you are very busy so I hope this email finds you well. I always enjoyed talking with Elmer even though I always struggled to understand his thick SA accent, yours too! The one thing I always took away from talking with both of you was your sense of fortitude and your great positive attitude. Like everyone, I was stunned when I heard the news and have been very sad since then for you. I just hope he knows how many people his life touched; as I talk to people around the country it is amazing how many people have told their stories of how Elmer enriched their lives in one way or another.

Again my prayers go out for you and the rest of the Symons family.

Take care,

Brian VanKoevering  
(Formerly with Enduro Engineering)

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Hi Juals,

Thank you so much for your message - I imagine all the rush you've been through lately, so thanks a lot for finding time to write!! We keep you in our thoughts all the time, it's good to know of you guys first hand.

I've seen the lovely poem to the Fallen Rider. You know we knew Elmer as the Sunset Rider because of his number? 107 in French, Cent Sete - Sunset. He made this association the day he arrived in Portugal, at my parents. I went to visit them and Elmer came along. They don't speak English but adopted him immediately. He did have this effect on people...

I am attaching the last picture I took him, at Stage 2. It's all blurry but the camera managed to get a clear image of our friend. I like it a lot.

We've been hanging out together, me, Carlos A., Luis, Miguel... having dinner, drinking some beer :-)) remembering the good times in your company and supporting each other. It's good to have friends. Me and the guys decided to ride down to Morocco and complete the fatidic stage as a small tribute to Elmer. We'll do it in February - 16th to the 20th. I guess it will be our goodbye and I am sure we'll have a lot of fun.

Give Philip my best and congrats on the race result!! I miss you all!

Kiss,

Carlos



Hello Philip

my name is Donald from Nevada. I work for Best In TheDesert.

To refresh your memory, I met you at the NRE (Nevada rally experience) in 2006.

You guys had brought out the support truck to hopefully work out all the bugs.

At the court house in Pioche where you bumped into me I gave you directions to lunch

Then at lunch, I gave you directions to the Pearson ranch which later both

you and Elmer went back to visit Lee. I am so sorry and heartbroken about Elmer.

He was a true friend and a great inspiration to me. I would love to make sure that this

reaches you so that I can send you some good pictures and stories of

our brother Elmer. I realize you are overwhelmed right now and you need

some family time but please when you have a moment, drop me an e-mail so I can

continue to hopefully help with the healing process and relay some great picks and

stories of Elmer.

With love and prayers,

Donald

P.S.

Elmer always called me Donavan

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Hi Bud,

Len and Peg were here on a tour, they hooked up with Elmer in the states, thought you would like to see what they have to say.

Greetings Warren, Craig, David, and Danny,

I was so sorry to hear about Elmer and wanted to extend our condolences; I know you guys were very close.

I did get a chance to talk with Elmer a few times and really enjoyed following his racing accomplishments. I was always rooting for him, especially when I heard he was competing in Dakar. He spent a lot of time with me on the phone going over all the stuff I could do to my KTM450. He offered to go riding anytime, and it didn't seem to bother him at all that we were at completely different riding levels. He made me feel like we had been friends for a long time, even though we just met.

Over the last few years, I lost both my Mom & Dad, but believe with all my heart and mind that I will see them again. In the same way I hope to take Elmer up on his riding offer in the next place. Our thoughts and prayers are with all his family and friends.

Peggy and I think about you guys often and hope we can get back to South Africa soon. If any of you are coming to So California, you always have a place to stay with us.

Looking forward,

Len & Peggy

"To our friends Elmer and Philip and to their family and to all those who loved Elmer and celebrate his life in his homeland this day. Elmer and Philip touched our lives in a way that is truly unforgettable. You are the truest champions and gentlemen. Our thoughts and prayers are with you always. We are here if you ever need anything ever. "

signed,

Des and Julie Mc Donald, Joe Desrosiers and Mark Anderson.

Team Rally SoCal Assistance Truck Dakar 2007. USA

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Hi Phillip,

I case you don't recognize my name, its Haley Cooper-Cox, Dale's daughter. I had to hunt down your email address which is why you haven't heard from me sooner. We are all very sorry to hear about Elmer. My dad, my brother, Casey and I are all heartbroken. Your brother has a very special place in our hearts and our lives. I have some pictures I want to email you from my wedding (I will have to do that from my computer at home). I was truly touched that Elmer made it up hear for that. He helped out tremendously behind the scenes too. Casey and I closed on our house the day before our wedding and so my dad and Elmer moved our bed in so we could stay there on our wedding night. After the wedding and the reception were over and we went to our new house, and of course I had plenty of champagne at the reception, but we had no toilet paper for me to go pee. So your brother saved the day. He rode one of my dad's motorcycles down to our house in the rain to deliver us toilet paper.

He would call us often to check in and see how everyone was doing. We were hoping to get him out this way for Thanksgiving but he was just too busy. He thought he might be able to make it before he moved back to South Africa.

We offer our deepest sympathies and our greatest respect. We know how had it is to lose a loved one. Elmer is truly loved and will be deeply missed. If you are ever in the country, we would love to see you again. You are always a welcome part of our family.

Take care and much love,  
Haley

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Danny, Craig, Warren and Phillip;

Please accept my deepest condolences on the loss of your friend and brother. Though my trip was short, I did get to meet Elmer and cheer for him during The Roof. He was very kind and had a spirit that could light up an entire room. I've rooted for him ever since my visit there. It saddened me today to learn of his death.

Peace be with all of you during this time of healing. My thoughts and prayers are with you.

Your friend,  
Jerrod Kelley  
Editor, ATV Sport  
Contributor, ATV Magazine

Hi Phillip

my wife Kim and I along with many of our AOT customers send our deepest condolences to you and your family  
Elmer was a class act and will be missed by all

Regards,

Danny Steyn

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This banner was held up at the Jackrabbits Hare & Hound on January  
> 14 in honour of Elmer. It is going to be sent to his family.

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> Elmer was also voted in to Rover MC( desert motorcycle club) in  
> Saturday January 13, 2007 as an honorary member.

> Rob Kyker Rovers MC President



Beste Philip,

Ons is 'n Suid-Afrikaanse gesin wat in Marokko woonagtig is.

Eerstens wil ons ons medelye en innige simpatie betuig aan julle almal met hierdie tragiese afsterwe van Elmer. Dit is 'n groot slag en alles het so onverwags gebeur. Aanvaar dus hiermee ons innige meegevoel met julle as gesin.

Alhoewel ons nie vir Elmer geken het nie, het ons steeds 'n baie aangename gesprek met hom gehad aan die einde van Stage 3, net nadat hulle van Nador naby Errachidia (Tilsinnt) geeindig het. Ek het ook enkele fotos geneem. Hy was baie opgewonde oor sy prestasie en het dadelik sy VSA mederyer geluk gewens met sy mooi prestasie.

Die volgende oggend het ons hom ook afgesien by die wegspringpunt by Rissani, begin van Stage 4.

Ek is jammer dat ons nou eers kontak maak, maar, ons het sopas julle webadres aanlyn in die Beeld gelees.

Ek heg hierby die fotos aan. Hoop dit is aangename herinneringe vir julle.

Laastens wil ek vir julle as gesin baie sterkte toewens in hierdie tyd van rou. Mag ons Hemelse Vader deur die krag van die Heilige Gees, persoonlik by julle elkeen wees. Mag Hy julle vertrous en vir julle Sy rus en vrede gee, daardie vrede wat ons verstand te bowe gaan.

Philippians 4:7 And God's peace, which is far beyond human understanding, will keep your hearts and minds safe in union with Christ Jesus.

Mag die Skrif uit Romeine 8:28 vir jul ook versterk:

Romans 8:28 We know that in all things God works for good with those who love him, those whom he has called according to his purpose.

Baie seen vir julle.

Schalk en Anne-Marie Bornman

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Dear Phillip, Jualeen and Family.

As a friend of Elmer I just want to sympathies to you all. We all knew he was a great person, and we will miss him a lot. But I've peace in my heart and know God needed him much more than we do. I know we all ask why Elmer, but we must remember God came to take us on our peak time. And I know at that moment Elmer was the happiest person. So I hope you will also find peace and understanding. And remember if any of you need a helping hand or someone to talk to just let me know. Because Elmer would have done the same for me.

Regards  
Cindy Coetzee

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Hi Phillip

You may only get this email in a couple of weeks.

I was stunned and saddened to hear about Elmer's death yesterday in the Dakar rallye. Even though I have been in the USA for eight years now I have regularly followed Elmer's successes and racing progress. I tried contacting him earlier last year but never heard from him. It at moments like these that I reflect on when your mom passed away and I was with you guys - the memories stay with me forever.

Please forward to James and Eileen.

My deepest sympathies and condolences.

Your little bro has always had a special place in my heart.

Sincerely

Alan Dennill

Philip,

My whole family and I just wanted to let you know how sorry we are, and how much we will miss him. He was part of the family and we really loved having him around. He was just such a great person and dear friend to me. We use to spend hours sitting out back, on the ranch talking about racing. He will truly be missed. My prayers are with you and your whole family. I wish I had met the rest of Elmer's family, but I am thankful that I got to meet you. God please you all.

Sincerely,

Shelli Sexton

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Philip,

I wanted you to know that I'm thinking about you and your family and that you are in my prayers. Elmer was an excellent person and will be sorely missed by all who knew him. He had a focus, a drive, and perseverance that I have never known in another person. It was inspiring. I feel better for having known him and I know that I'm not the only person that he inspired. That is a good legacy to leave behind. It was an honour to be his friend as it is to be yours. Know that between Troy and me you always have a home here in America.

God Bless You,

Steve Forshee

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Dear Philip and Jualeen and family,

I was one of the many lucky people that got to spend a decent amount of time with Elmer. I have these pictures of Elmer and thought that you all might like to have them as well. Again I am very , very sorry for the loss of Elmer. My thoughts and prayers are with you all. The world will never be the same, as far as I am concerned. Let me know if these images come through correctly as I have more to send. I also have a small amount of video I can send. Currently, as well, I am working with riderdown.org to organize a benefit ride to help with any debts that have been incurred by this tragedy.

Sincerely,  
Chris White

P.S. Elmer was enriching other people's lives through friendship and the sharing of his great wealth of knowledge.

Dear Philip,

I just wanted to offer you and your family my sincerest heartfelt sympathies for your tragic loss.

It was with shock and utter disbelief that I heard of Elmer's passing Tuesday. He truly was a very special person and I will always remember him for his humility, positive attitude and especially the kindred warmth he exuded towards others. I feel privileged to have known Elmer. May he inspire us all to greater things and above all to embrace life just as he did.

I wish you and the rest of your family lots of strength in the dark days ahead.

Warm regards,

Beowulf

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Dear Elmer

I will always remember your smiling face and the times we had at the Winterberg , Roof , Desert god be with you from Mike Clegg Rover Enduro club and castrol winterberg organiser

Kind Regards

Mike Clegg  
Site Manager Western Cape

Tragic News From JJE/ Sunday Social Club  
10 January, 2007

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I am deeply saddened to hear of the loss of Elmer for you and all of us that his life touched. I was privileged to have spent time with Elmer for a short time. I first met him as I was getting out of off-road racing. He came and spent a night with me in Asheville, NC and we had a good night on the town. I couldn't wait for him to return to the States to visit once more and hear of his great stories of the race. This Saturday night local friends of Elmer's are getting together in remembrance of him. Elmer will never be forgotten. I wish all of you strength through this difficult time and know that you have many friends here. Please keep my email address and let me know if you ever come over here. I would love for you to visit.

Chris Dodd

By now, most of you most know of Elmer Symons death. Elmer lost his life yesterday in Africa while competing in the fourth stage of the Dakar Rally. Upon receiving this tragic news all members within the Sunday Social Club and SET&RA were absolutely crushed beyond belief .

Elmer was an accomplished desert racer and champion, and most of all, a friend.

Elmer's dream after helping James compete last year in the Dakar Rally, was to do it himself. Most tragically it has cost him his life. Elmer will truly be missed.

I have come to know of how many lives he has touched in these last days, only to know that he has lost his. There are no amount of words that I will ever be able to express of the reaching out and outpouring of love and support that we have received from everyone.

Our sincere wishes and prayers go out to everyone who knew Elmer, his family and everyone who knew him as a friend.

Those wishing to contribute to help with Elmer's family getting his body back to South Africa and giving Elmer a proper burial can do so by clicking the PayPal donate link below.

Once again thanks again for your overwhelming love and support. We will all ride again someday.

God Speed Elmer

Sincerely,  
Johnny Futo

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Philip,  
We all share in your loss; my heart goes out to you and your entire family.  
My wife and I came to know Elmer over the past year and became very close. I helped him with local races as well as in the GNCC races and the 24 at Perry Mountain that he won.

I just wanted you to know that we are helping you and your family out, back here in the States. We have set up a Pay Pal account in order for those who wish to help out with the expenses that you have and will accrue.

I know you are overwhelmed as this point, if you could let me know as to where and how to direct this help to you I will make sure this happens.

I have written a letter and it should be posted on our web site as well as the SET&RA web site.

Please let me know what needs to be done.

Please E-mail your direct mailing address.

Sincerely,  
Johnny Futo

I am so sorry for your loss of Elmer. I met him just once after he had drowned his bike out at a creek crossing at the Show Me GNCC in Missouri in May. I wasn't riding but spectating with my wife and friend and we had walked deep into the muddy course and came across Elmer, still with his bike, cheering on the occasional rider. He struck up a conversation and soon was making me guess where he was from after I guessed England the first time. We talked for 10 minutes and I remember him smiling the whole time. He pointed at a couple of boys playing on the side of the creek and revelled in their joy... For whatever reason he was genuinely interested in me and my experiences. I came away thinking this was one of the happiest, most content, and in love with life people I had ever met. I know you all must miss him terribly.

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YOU'RE BROTHER

YOU'RE SON

WAS MY INSPIRATION TO RACE OFF-ROAD BIKE'S, I WILL  
ALWAYS RACE WITH HIM  
IN MY MIND!!!!!!!!!!!!

WE MOURN YOUR LOSS!!!!

RIAAN AND NATASHA

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To all of Elmer's Family,

My family and all my friends are devastated by Elmer's death. We offer all of our thoughts, prayers and condolences to you. Elmer was one of the best people I know on the planet. All our love goes out to you and especially to Philip. No words exist to ease the pain but know the good spirit of Elmer touched many people and we are all thinking of you and him.

Most Sincerely,

Joe Barker, family, and friends.

*-- Joe Barker, PE, MBA, Dip. Esp.  
Red Bull-Repsol KTM USA Dakar Team Manager*

I remember waking up one morning, having fallen asleep in the lounge, to someone ringing the doorbell. It was mid winter and it was still grey outside. There stood Elmer wanting to use the toilet.

There was frost on the ground and he was shivering. I asked him if they had just gotten in, but no, they had slept in the car on our front lawn having arrived in the middle of the night.

Kingsley, their dad, did not want to disturb us - Mom gave him hell. She ushered them all in and gave them breakfast. James said we were so lucky to have a mom.

What they went through - each supporting each other as the old man struggled to cope with the death of his wife and their mother.

I cried in the shower this morning as I recalled the winter morning incident.

A father trying his best but failing. Eileen as the surrogate mom, James the rock, Philip and Elmer the young boys relying on each other. Each kid supporting each other. Elmer the happy-go-lucky kid taking the brunt of it all. Really sad but inspiring to see how the kids all pulled together. Each holding each other up.

James, Eileen and Philip, I cannot begin to imagine your pain and the loss Elmer - One of your bonds that held you together.

I can still see their car parked in our front yard with all of them huddled in there keeping each other warm...

My deepest sympathies and condolences.

Neal Dennill & Family

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Gone but not forgotten.....

May you rest in Peace

Dieter (LHS 94') & Manuela (LHS 95')

**Dieter Kossmann**

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Elmer's Kin,

I would like to offer my sympathies to Elmer's family and closest, for their great loss.

I was able to speak to him in the assembly yard a Dakar head quarters in Lisbon, and found him a very focused person, who loved his sport. We talked about racing in South Africa, where I am from originally, and my having built and run cars there and the GT race cars I have worked on in Europe.

It was a great shock to hear the news of his passing, although it was not clear how his accident happened.

It is a great loss when a young man dies like this, you have my sympathy.

Yours  
Ray Watson  
Bambury, England

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Heartfelt condolences are extended to family and friends at this tragic time. You should all be very proud of the achievements of such a young man. KZN racing will miss him. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Regards

Allan, Graham, Grant, Craig, Jason, Dave and Marc  
(Dirt bike riders from KZN)

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Hi there Phillip!

my deepest condolences to you and your family for your great loss!!

Ryno Weitsz

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***Dear Philip & family,***

***We are so sorry to hear of your loss. Please know that our family is thinking of you all.***

***Love from***

***Nicolette (maiden name: Jolly), Gary, Chloe & Robert Cinamon***

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To dearest Philip,

I wonder if you will even get this email? I just wanted to get in touch and say how very very sorry we all are to hear about Elmer.... it has been such sad and shocking news and we all feel so very heartbroken.

We are all thinking about you and your family so much and just want to send our love.

Adrienne Poultney

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My name is Heather Sutton. I am Loren Sutton's daughter (a friend of James and Elmer).

I would like to send out my deepest sympathy for all of Elmer's family, team-mates, and friends. I never had the honour of meeting him personally but have heard nothing but good words about him. I know that my dad and my little cousin really looked up to him and thought the world of him. My cousin got a signed picture of Elmer for Christmas and was completely overjoyed. I know that he was a good man and will be greatly missed by many. My thoughts and prayers go out to everyone.

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Elmer you will be greatly missed and you were one of the coolest people and nicest I have ever met. I wish I could have hung out with you one more time. Best hopes and wishes for your family and friends. I will always remember you Elmer.

Love,  
tiffany

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Philip;

I am at a loss for words. I can't tell you how much your brother meant to me. He was part of the family and a dear, dear friend. I am so sorry. I want you to know that my whole family is here for you. We all loved him and will miss him terribly. We was such a good friend to me. I hope that when you get a chance you call me. We are all so devastated and desperate for more information. We want to you to know we thought of him as part of the family. Please contact us when you can. My heart goes out to Philip. If there is anything, just ask.

Sincerely,

Shelli Sexton

My sympathy for the tragic loss of Elmer.

Tsilimantos George  
MOTO magazine editor  
Greece

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All our thoughts are with you and your family. I am a better person for being friends with Elmer. He always made me smile and laugh when ever we crossed paths. I and all who new him will miss him dearly.

Mark Faulk

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Hi

Don't know if anyone is monitoring this email. But anyway, I just want to express my sincerest condolences to all of Elmer's friends and family, especially Phillip, who was there with him all the way.

I will never forget the great times we had together in Lesotho, and on some of the various other off-road races in SA. He taught me so much.

I know my family, Ashley, Jennifer, Andrea and Kerry, has been totally devastated by the loss, and their thoughts and wishes also go out to everyone.

With mine, and my family's deepest respect, we will miss you Elmer.  
Rest in Peace

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My sincerest condolences to family and friends.

Gerd Marschner  
Walvis Bay Pharmacy  
Namibia

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'n Tragdie! Ek het jou nie geken nie Elmer, maar weet dit - ek is hartseer oor jou ontydige afsterwe saam met jou familie. Ook hartseer vir jou broer, met wie jy duidelik 'n baie besondere verhouding gehad het - al was dit van korte duu, gegewe jou jeugdige ouderdom!

Woorde klink altyd leeg in sulke tye. Maar die feit dat ek hierdie e-pos skryf sit alles dalk in perspektief. Ek ken jou nie eers nie! Met jou tragiese afsterwe het jy miskien net die erkenning gekry wat jy nagjeaag het.... al was dit nie op die manier wat jy wou gehad het nie!

Aan die familie: kies vanaand 'n ster in die hemel en doop hom Elmer. As dit moeilik raak, gaan sit buite en praat met Elmer. Hoe meer jul praat met Elmer, hoe meer sal Elmer vir jul wink!

Sterkte

Mac vd Merwe

I never met Elmer, but this tragedy makes one feel great sorrow at the loss of a great sportsman and South African.

Keep your eyes on God and be strong.

God Bless

Wayne Nabal

**Mepla-Alfit**

Mepla ZA (Pty) Ltd

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I am a South African working in Beirut, Lebanon. I would like to extend my deepest sympathies to Elmer's family and friends during this very sad time.

It is clear that Elmer lived life to the fullest.

God bless,

Neville R. Koen

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We have never met Elmer, but I have surfed his site a number of times as a fellow South African's and off road riders.

Our deepest sympathies go out to the family and close friends of Elmer.

May the Lord give you **all** comfort and peace.

God bless

Robbie Mills

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RIP Elmer,

You unfortunately came to greif doing what we all dream of.

A huge loss.

Bloody Magic Carpet.

Please say hi to Andy (Ern) Caldy for us.

Regards,

Roger Heel

I wish to send to Elmer's dears my condolences. I met Elmer while he was preparing himself to the Lisboa-Dakar Rally and that was enough to understand how great he IS. His spirit will always wander the African pistes...my memorial is in

all the best

**Gonçalo Pais**

@ Adventure R

"Whenever I may roam, where I lay my head is home"

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Hi Philip,

Firstly please accept my condolences, this is a great loss and my prayers are with you all.

I was friends with Elmer when you guys still stayed in Ladysmith, would it be possible to let me know where and when the funeral will take place.

There is a website I would also like you to have a look at where a lot of riders are paying there respects -

Once again, very sorry about Elmer

*Riaan Freitag*  
*Project Manager*

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Hey Elmer

I only met you once at the Sugerbelt Nationals. You impressed me with your laidback relaxed attitude.

Buddy, you died doing what you loved and that is something many people never get to do.

You may not have got to Dakar but you lived your dream and you have travelled further than most – well done.

Regards

Neil MacArthur

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Al my meegevoel vir familie en vriende.  
Net die tyd sal genees.  
Sterkte!

Kind regards

**Ina Potgieter**

You might go down in the record books as the South-African rider that died in the Dakar. To me you were the best SA rider ever that died while he was doing what he enjoyed the most! Motorcycle riding!

You are in a better place right now!

Jacques Muller.

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Having just checked today's updates on Dakar we were shocked and saddened to hear of Elmer's accident. This race seems to be getting costlier every year with the extreme conditions and the highly competitive teams. Elmer paid the ultimate price for doing what he lived and loved. Please accept Full Moon Racing's deepest sympathy.

Rich & Linda Struhm  
simple off-roaders. living for adventure

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My deepest sympathies for the Symons family.  
I was supporting him all the way during this years Dakar.

May he rest in peace.

Ivan.

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I met Elmer at a SETRA HS here in GA in early '06 and he was just the nicest, most easy going guy out there, but such a competitor.

I am so sorry for all of his friends and family going through this loss.

The only comfort I can find in this is that he died doing what he loved to do.

Godspeed Elmer

Walter Buss

Dear Phil,

We are truly sorry to hear about Elmer, but so glad he achieved his goal to ride in the Dakar. Our thoughts are with you and your friends and family at this time.

Love from  
Andrew, Debbie, Brandon and Chad Boucher (ladysmith)

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Hi

My name is Paul Conlon from Botswana, I am truly sorry for your loss. I met Elmer once and have often visited his web site to check on his progress in the States. We are also a motor sport family and know the dangers involved, but hope and pray that it worst never happens. I hope that whoever reads this mail please sends our heartfelt condolences to Elmer's family.

Regards

Paul and family

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Dear Symons Family,

It's with great sadness that I pen these words, at the loss of a son and brother. Our thoughts are with you as a family.

For Phillip, this day must have been a nightmare. We are thinking of you, as you were right there with Elmer. Being such a part of his life, we are sure that you are devastated.

At a time like this, words fail to sympathize with your great loss. Once again, our deepest condolences.

Should there be any practical way that we can assist, please do not hesitate to ask, we will be more than willing!!!

Murray and Shirley Lloyd (Warren Murray's brother and sister in law)

Kind Regards,

**Murray Lloyd – Managing Member**

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You were an outstanding racer and one hell of a great guy.  
You will be missed my friend.  
-Tony

Dear family and friends of Elmer,

As I read the website I see he was a professional and experienced rider. The Dakar however has not everything to do with skills, it is also a very dangerous event and everybody who takes part of it knows this well.

It was his choice to do his thing in life, and we all know that it is important for successful people to do so.

I see him and others like Meonie and Sanct as the gladiators of the 21th century. They also lived their life to the max with risk, fortune and fame.

I wish you strength with the loss of a good relative or friend.

Igor Teeken.

---

I heard it in the news. I never heard about Elmer, but every off-road motard knows about the hardness of Dakar and many other places where we run.

I'm sad. I can't express myself. I only want to express my condolence to his family and friends.

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HI THERE PHILLIP,

ALL OF US VAN DER MERWE'S IN LADYSMITH WISH YOU OUR DEEPEST CONDOLENCES FOR ELMER THAT HAS PASSED ON. YOU AND YOUR FAMILY MUST KEEP UP YOUR STRENGTH IN THIS SAD TIME AND IF THERE IS ANYTHING WE CAN HELP WITH PLEASE DON'T HESITATE TO CALL. OUR THOUGHTS ARE WITH YOU.

LOTS OF LOVE  
SAREL, CHARMAINE, BOETIE, EUGENE, LOLA, MARILIZE AND LINDY.

---

My god be with you – may you ride two wheels in the sky

From all of us @ Combined Air Services Durban – South Africa

*Dutchy Kurvers Combined Air Services Dbn.*

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Phillip,

I don't know the words to express my sympathy and sense of loss that I feel for you, your family and the many friends that you and Elmer made over the years. The thoughts and prayers from Laura and me are with you now and will be for many years to come. The whole team reaches out to you to express our hope and support for you as your life moves forward.

If you ever find yourself in the middle of the US anywhere near, St Louis Missouri I extend to you an open invitation to visit our home and to assist you in your travels anyway that we can.

Please send me a land based mailing address where I can contact you in the future.

We will never forget you or Elmer...

Thank you for your friendship,

Jim and Laura Radcliff

---

Dear Phillip

I was very sad to learn about Elmer's death. My thoughts have been with you and Eileen over these past weeks.

I liked Elmer very much. I remember him so well from the swim squad that we all went along to that was organized by Bev. He was always so jovial and happy and he gave me the impression that he was fully committed - almost more than 100% - to whatever he did.

If Eileen and Norman are still with you, please give them my very best regards.

Yours sincerely

Alex

---

Hey Philip,

Just got back from Muenster, Texas. The benefit ride was a success. Good ride and met more people that knew Elmer. He had such a positive impact on everyone he met. Let me know when or if you are coming to Georgia. I would really like to meet you. Brian Henson came to Arkansas and rode with us today after the Texas ride. I think all of us have tried to be better people because of your baby brother.

Respectfully yours,

Vernon Church.

---

Philip,

Sharon and I are so very saddened by the loss of Elmer. I have no way to imagine how difficult this must be for you and your family.

Elmer's positive attitude, dedication to his goals, and easy smile were inspirations to all who knew him. I will never forget how excited he was about your coming to visit him this past summer. When I met you in North Carolina, the bond that you and Elmer shared as brothers was apparent. I hope that my children grow to have the same level of respect and admiration for each other that you and Elmer obviously shared. Your steadfast support for him reaching his goal of Dakar meant so much to him and he spoke of it often.

My home was always open to Elmer, and I would extend the same invitation to you and your family. If there is anything at all we can do to assist you in any way, please contact us. We will be there for you should you need us.

Warmest Regards,  
Dale and Sharon Cooke

---

Hi Phillip,

In case you don't recognize my name, it's Haley Cooper-Cox, Dale's daughter. I had to hunt down your email address which is why you haven't heard from me sooner. We are all very sorry to hear about Elmer. My dad, my brother, Casey and I are all heartbroken. Your brother has a very special place in our hearts and our lives. I have some pictures I want to email you from my wedding (I will have to do that from my computer at home). I was truly touched that Elmer made it up here for that. He helped out tremendously behind the scenes too. Casey and I closed on our house the day before our wedding and so my dad and Elmer moved our bed in so we could stay there on our wedding night. After the wedding and the reception were over and we went to our new house, and of course I had plenty of champagne at the reception, but we had no toilet paper for me to go pee. So your brother saved the day. He rode one of my dad's motorcycles down to our house in the rain to deliver us toilet paper.

He would call us often to check in and see how everyone was doing. We were hoping to get him out this way for Thanksgiving but he was just too busy. He thought he might be able to make it before he moved back to South Africa.

We offer our deepest sympathies and our greatest respect. We know how hard it is to lose a loved one. Elmer is truly loved and will be deeply missed. If you are ever in the country, we would love to see you again. You are always a welcome part of our family.

Take care and much love,  
Haley

---

Hello Philip & Jualeen and the rest of the family (whom we have not yet met)

We are battling to find the right words at the moment, nothing but time is going to ease the tremendous pain being felt by all. I have not experienced emotions like this since my Father's murder in 1998 and through that experience, I think that I can understand & share some of your pain. Jonno and I cannot stop thinking about you and your family and all I want to do is give you a big hug and tell you that we love you.

Elmer and you were so much in our thoughts over the Roof last year – we missed you guys tons. I asked a biker who came in for lunch if Elmer was riding – hoping that at the last minute he had decided to pop over, and in hearing that Elmer was going to do the Dakar – we felt an enormous sense of pride for Elmer, a guy who stops at nothing to reach for his dreams (and who simply kicks butt!!!). 😊

With the Dakar starting on my birthday, Jonno and I knew that you guys were out there somewhere... and in hearing about Elmer's death on the radio driving back from Maseru we have been in a complete state of shock and disbelief!!! The last few days have been a complete blur, with emotions ranging with shock, denial, sadness and immense anger to knowing that one day we will accept that Elmer died doing what he is passionate about.

I went back to a diary from 2001 where I knew Elmer had given me his sister's fax number – not even a name –clinging to that thought I've been trying to put something down on paper to send through - and then I remembered Elmer telling me about his website. Out here despite now having telephones and email (no fax lines as yet) we still seem lost in the world of technology and it only dawned on me this morning that I could reach you this way.

Philip – the last time you guys were in Semonkong – we had one of the happiest and most chilled out days ever – may you and your family repeat that when ever you need some mountain air, at any time of day or night you know there is always a bed for you here. Despite the fact we see each other in a blue moon or two, we consider you guys as true friends and will always feel Elmer's spirit out here in the mountains.

May each new day help heal a wee bit more and if there is anything at all that you need doing, we are at last only a phone call away. You are all continually in our thoughts and prayers, and may these words help you in the way it helped me.

Death is nothing at all.  
I have only slipped away into the next room.  
I am I, and you are you.  
Whatever we were to each other, that we still are.  
Call me by my old familiar name,  
Speak to me in the easy way which you always used.  
Put no difference in your tone,  
Wear no forced air of solemnity or sorrow.  
Laugh as we always laughed,  
At the little jokes we enjoyed together.  
Pray, smile, think of me, pray for me.  
Let my name be ever the household word.  
It always was, let it be spoken without effect,  
Without the trace of a shadow on it.  
Life means all that it ever meant.  
It is the same as it ever was;  
There is unbroken continuity.  
Why should I be out of mind because I am out of sight?  
I am waiting for you, for an interval,  
Somewhere very near, just round the corner.  
All is well.

Henry Scott Holland (1847 – 1918)

With lots of love

Armelle & Jonno

Hello Philip,

I don't know if you remember me, I work for James and knew Elmer through his time here in Atlanta.

I wish I could say something to make you and your family feel better at this terribly sorrowful time. I am so sorry for all of you. Elmer was always such a nice young man to me and I enjoyed the times I spent with him. He spoke so highly of his family and what they meant to him. I know you all are proud of him.

He sent me a nice e-mail on December 20th and thanked me for helping him. I really never did a lot but he was always gracious.

Sincerely Judy Peacock

---

Philip, Eileen and James. It is Jane and Terri's 18th birthday today and here we are reminiscing over Elmer and Philip. Our thoughts are with you all. Take care Love from Stephen, Pam, Morgyn, Jane and Terri.

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...I've been trying to get some news on you. I tried Jualeen's home phone but couldn't get through. I was mad because last Wednesday I found out that if I had indeed flown to Casablanca I would have been able to meet you. I tried afterwards to get to Paris but ASO wouldn't give me your flight plan. There was nothing I could do but I feel this huge knot all over my body thinking of you doing this trip home on your own. I hope you are now home with Juales and among your friends and family.

I would like you to know that you have not left our thoughts for a second and that, although the magnitude of your loss is unimaginable to us, we share it from the deepest of our hearts. It doesn't happen often just by sharing the same space for three weeks, but I am very honoured to have met all of you and I feel I am part of your family. You have certainly become part of mine.

Elmer has left us much richer than we were and I thank you for having steered him my way.

In times like this there is nothing friends can do but be there. I can't be physically there but count on me like if I was. I am.

Carlos M

Hi Phillip,

Heard about Elmer, just wanted to say my deepest sympathy to you and your family. You guys were so close and just remember, he passed doing what he loved. You are in our thoughts during this tough time.

No words can make it any better, but just know, that he was respected and people held him in high regard. It is a huge loss to so many, but you also have lots of people standing by you, and people who respect you and hold you in high regard.

If you ever need anything I'm just an email or call away. Be strong and keep your head held up high, he is in good hands.

Celeste

---

Hello Philip

My name is Dan Jones, Chris Jones father. We were very stricken by Elmer's passing. Elmer was Chris's hero and told me that he was a great guy.

Our condolences to you and your family.  
Elmer is in our prayers.

Dan & Rita Jones

---

Hi Philip

I heard the tragic news of Elmer's passing and wanted to send my condolences to you and your family. I'm sitting at my desk wishing I could think of something profound to say that would express how I feel about the loss of such an amazing person. I know that words can't be of much relief to you right now but please know that everyone that knew Elmer is hurting over the loss. To know Elmer you couldn't help but love him.

I have such great memories of the three of us. One of the memories that sticks in my mind is when you and Elmer made me go horse back riding with no saddle on the farm. As if that wasn't bad enough, Elmer on one horse, you and me on another, our horse started galloping back home and as we got closer to the gate you duck the pole above the gate, but forgetting to tell me to do the same so the pole connected with my head, I went flying off the horse and landed on my bum. Needless to say you and Elmer thought it was so funny I thought you were both going to wet yourselves. Buggers. When I look back I only remember Elmer being happy and enjoying life's every moments. I only have a handful of exciting and wonderful memories with the three of us and have always admired how the two of you lived life. Most of us let life go by without doing the things we want to do or dream of doing but Elmer has always lived out his dreams. He is a celebrity in the biking world but he is also a celebrity in our hearts.

Philip, I know you have a wonderful support system but if there is anything you need you only have to call. Please let me know when or where you will be having a memorial service. I would really like to attend.

You are in my thoughts and prayers.

With love  
Sam (Jolly)

Hi Philip

My deepest condolences on the death of your brother. I myself race Off Road motorcycles. I had a brother who raced Off Road with me but was unfortunately killed in a Super bike accident 2 years ago, so I have some understanding of how you must feel.

Stay strong and remember your brother was and still is a great motivation to a lot of riders out there. I plan to ride the roof this year and will dedicate my finishing this event to Elmer.

All the best

# 402 Brett Door Zone Kawasaki Racing Team

Kind Regards

Brett Strydom

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Hi Phillip,

So sorry for your loss, our thoughts are with you.  
Please don't hesitate to contact us if we can help in any way  
Lots of love  
Jurie and CJ

---

Dear Philip,

We are very sorry to hear of Elmer's death. Please accept and convey our family's sincere condolences to your whole family.

Regards  
Robin Bloem (née Gardiner)

**JOHN DUA ATTORNEYS  
CONVEYANCING**

---

Phillip,

Your brother was not only a friend, but a fellow club member of Rovers MC and racer in District 37. I am proud to say I knew him.

I am stunned and saddened by the loss of Elmer. Please know he was loved and respected by all who knew him.

I continue to pray for you and your family.

Kim Carpenter  
Rovers MC  
Rescue 3  
District 37, AMA

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Hi,

I had the pleasure to meet Elmer in Muenster, Texas. He was practicing for the Last Man Standing event in December, 2006. I was riding with some fellow KTM friends and met Elmer and his partner Brian, I believe. We camped out with them and did some trail riding the next day. Elmer was very friendly to me and my wife Christie. I will remember him and his smile for quite some time. I was impressed with his riding skills, but his personality really showed. God bless the family and friends and I hope you will hang on the memories as we all will do.

With sympathy,

Terry & Christie Poe

Tyler, Texas USA

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To the family of Elmer Symons,

My name is Candace Weaver, I had the pleasure of meeting Elmer last month at the Red Bull's Last Man Standing race in Bulcher, TX. Bart Hayes with Powersport GrafX had given him a ride out there, Bart is a friend of ours. After the race everyone was at the I-Hop getting a bite to eat, and he was talking about racing the Dakar. We are in shock and devastated at the news. Please know that your family are in our prayers. After looking at all the forums, I believe he touched so many lives. I know that he touched mine and Ken's.

I would like to know of any passions or causes that we could make a donation to in his memory, since we live in North Carolina and would not be able to attend any type of service.

Thank you in advance for your response, and once again we are deeply sorry for your loss.

Candace Weaver & Ken Painter

---

Philip you have our condolences, we share your grief. In life if you are lucky if you get to meet people as nice as you and Elmer. We will never forget him. Craig and Dylan debel

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We are all in shock (southern California) our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. He will be greatly missed.

Brian Dague

Paul Krause's Mechanic

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I am so, so sorry my friend at this point words cannot express my sorrow for you and Phillip.

I could not believe my ears when I heard the news about Elmer. He was doing so well and we were all so proud. I was telling everybody about him. When I was first told I didn't believe them until I read the news report myself.

I didn't know how to get hold of you by phone.

Please accept my deepest sympathies nothing I say at this point is going to take the hurt away, but know that I am there for you my friend and my heart is breaking with you.

All my love  
Debbie

---

Hey Philip,

I am terribly sorry to hear the news of Elmer in the Dakar, my prayers go out to you and your family

Elmer was always good to me and never let his great success get the better of him always

down to earth, the same as the first time me ,Paul Eastwood and mike Munroe took you and Elmer

to the Harrismith Enduro and Elmer was on a DT 125 and he finished first, do you remember ?

Paul Aniceto

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Hi Phil

It is with great sadness I write to you please accept our condolences for the sad loss of Elmer from Mark & Liz from East London. Many times I told you Elmer was the best rider I had ever seen remember at the Roof when he beat all the guys by 20 minutes. It was a very sad day for all may God bless you and your family at this time.

Mark & Liz Chemaly

---

Hi Phillip

You may only get this email in a couple of weeks.

I was stunned and saddened to hear about Elmer's death yesterday in the Dakar rallye. Even though I have been in the USA for eight years now I have regularly followed Elmer's successes and racing progress. I tried contacting him earlier last year but never heard from him. It at moments like these that I reflect on when your mom passed away and I was with you guys - the memories stay with me forever.

Please forward to James and Eileen.

My deepest sympathies and condolences.

Your little bro has always had a special place in my heart.

Sincerely

Alan Dennill

---

Hi Philip,

So sorry to hear about Elmer, Gareth wrote such a nice email that I decided to send you my condolences as well. I've also donated some money to help with the Dakar costs you guys now have.

Regards,  
Ingo

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Philip,

My name is Christy Warren and I live in Bauxite, Arkansas. My family and I would like to extend our thoughts to you at this difficult time. Elmer came to Arkansas and did a class and my husband and son attended it. They adored him and have talked of him everyday since they met him. It means a lot to me that he was such a great rider and competitor obviously well on his way to the top and took time out of his training to help some amateurs learn more about riding. He took special time with my son Justin who is 11 and was the only kid at the class and that really means a lot. Elmer really motivated Justin to train hard and have fun too! He just started riding in December of 2005 and he has already accomplished so much. He started racing in the middle of the series and he ended up placing fourth overall in his class. Justin and my husband Scott proudly hung their posters Elmer autographed for them and they are now even more precious to them than ever. He will forever be an influence in their riding and life. It's not every day that you get to meet someone who is as nice, special as well as talented as Elmer and I just wanted to let you know that he will be missed here by many. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family at this difficult time and we will continue to remember you for many days to come.

Sincerely,  
Christy Warren

P.S. Justin and Scott both ride in the Arkansas Hare Scramble Championship Series. Our web site is [www.ahscs.com](http://www.ahscs.com) There are several very nice memories and comments about Elmer posted on there if you would like to check it out.

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Oh my, he was so happy to be doing this, so grateful to you that you helped him achieve this goal, we talked about it the day he left the states. I am so sad to have lost this friend, I can only imagine the grief you must feel. I keep thinking it just can't be true, that there is some horrible mistake.

If there is anything we can do, can help with, please let Malcolm or Troy or I know.  
We will do our best to help.

Elmer was such a blessing in my life. He often spoke of the influence you had in making him the man he was. Thank you for that. He is loved and will be sorely missed.

Kathy Fletcher

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Dear Jualene

We are all simply devastated about the news of Elmer. Please, if there is anything, anything at all, I can do to help please call on me. I know what it's like to lose a brother, and it's at a time like this that you and Philip need to lean on friends and share the burden.

There for you,  
Lots of love,

Jo

---

Dear Philip, Eileen and Norman,

It is with heartfelt sympathy that I send my sincere condolences, on the news of Elmer.

It was a great shock to me and I wish you all the strength in the following months to come.

Respectfully,

Shannon.

---

Philip & Jauleen, John & Wendy, Grant, Eileen & Norm, James, Dane, Tom

Many people live most of their lives dreaming about the ONE - day that they will "live that dream ...."

YOU good people helped Elmer to "LIVE HIS DREAM"

Elmer lived more in His short life than most people "live" in a lifetime .....

Elmer got to Live and Race with the best that motorcycle racing has to offer ..... Elmer "LIVED the DREAM"

I hope all the Good times and Good memories that You've shared together will ease the pain

Our Sincerest Condolences ....

Robin Adams, "Two-Boy" Andrew Shaw and the rest of the "Old Pre-runners"

Hi Philip

It is with great sadness that I write to you, I just want to offer my condolences for your tragic loss of Elmer. My heart goes out to you, I know the coming months will be very hard for you, just try to keep positive and carry the good memories of Elmer with you.

God bless

Best Regards

**Brian Todd**

Parts Manager

**KTM Motorcycles S.A. (Pty) Ltd.**

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R.I.P.

Hi Phillip and Family,

Please accept our heart felt condolences at the tragic loss of Elmer, our thoughts and prayers are with you in this sad time, Please could you let us know when you will be having a service as we would like to come pay our last respects..

Lot of Love and best wishes.

Maurice, Natalie, Nathan & Mathew Milton

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Philip,

I am stricken with a loss for words right now. Elmer was a true friend to me and I would have done anything for him and without a doubt he would return the favour. During the time spent with Elmer I felt like we became pretty close. I will never forget about Elmer and I will continue to tell people of him.

Bryan Henson

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Dear Philip and Jualeen,

You don't know me but I am one of the many , people who's life was touched by meeting your Brother. I am very sad to be writing to you under these circumstances and would like to offer you my sincerest, heartfelt apologies for the tragedy that you have suffered on this day. The world is a Dakar place with the passing of Elmer. He will not be forgotten. My prayers are with Elmer and you all. My deepest condolences to you all.

Elmer was a one of a kind individual. A top notch, class act person. One of the very few people that I have ever met, who impressed me in such a way. He gave his time ad self unselfishly to all who were around him. He took 2 days out of his training time for Last Man Standing to ride with a bunch of no-body's from Arkansas. That is how I came to know him and how I will always remember him. God speed my brother. May God be with you all, family and friends.

Sincerely,  
Chris White

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Hi Philip,

Firstly I'd like to send my condolences to you and your family. I am really sorry to hear the news about Elmer.

I live in the UK and have been here since 1999. Whenever the DAKAR was televised I would often think of you and Elmer. It looks like he really did super well in his career.

Best wishes.

Steven Kempson

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Dear Philip

Please accept my deepest sympathy, and know that you are in my prayers. A tragic and shocking loss. Elmer was my age and I cannot stop thinking about how close to home this feels to me and I have never met him or you.

I remember looking at Elmer's site last week thinking that I would like to be able to attempt the Dakar one day too, and respecting everything Elmer has achieved.

[http://www.e-dirt.co.za/newforum/forum\\_posts.asp?TID=6268&PN=1](http://www.e-dirt.co.za/newforum/forum_posts.asp?TID=6268&PN=1)

Please advise on where the funeral will be, If I cannot be there at least I could spare a moment of silence for a real hero.

Sincerely yours  
Etienne vd Merwe

---

Philip, Jauleen, Eileen and your family, James and your family:

I am so sorry for your loss. Having to say good-bye to Elmer prematurely does not seem fair. I know you must be deeply grieving. I will continue to pray that the Lord God will comfort you, give you peace and acceptance. I understand no words could express enough, my grief for you, his family whom he loved so much and whom obviously loved their baby brother beyond words. I could see it in his eyes when he spoke of each of you. Eileen he told me how proud he was of you; how "cool" you were. How hard you worked to get where you are. Jauleen, when I asked Elmer what you were like he said you were and "awesome girl; good for Philip". Philip, without a doubt he loved, admired and did see you as his Hero in life! What a special bond.

Elmer was a good man. A gentle spirit. It is clear the work ethic and fine character that your parents and yourselves instilled in him. Philip, my mother so appreciated your sharing with her about your mother. She tells the story of your mothers "charge" to you to "take care of Elmer" with such affection and great admiration. We all can see that you did just that. My mother was so touched by Elmer, he was sweet to her and she loved him very much. She is so distraught. She spoke to him like a mother would. She could see the little boy in him through the grown man exterior; she loved that about Elmer.

My family will forever be grateful to Elmer for what he did for James last year. We all have no doubt he was instrumental in getting James safely to Dakar! I had the privilege of seeing their relationship develop starting in October 2005. I spent a lot of hours with them in the basement as they prepared in various ways for the adventure of James' life and his dream of Dakar. Elmer talked through situations with James; sharing his knowledge of what it is like on this rallye. I know that James learned a lot from Elmer and that he had a love and bond with Elmer because of that experience. I believe they did impact each others lives. I'm not sure I can articulate the comfort and peace that we all felt knowing Elmer was caring for James in the most harsh and dangerous environment of the Dakar Rallye. We will never forget that and we will never forget Elmer.

Elmer was loved by so many. I hope over the next few weeks and months that you are able to experience all the love that people had for him. Elmer definitely made his mark here on this earth and we all trust and believe that even though he left us sooner than he or any of us wanted that he is with your mother and father and Jesus in that peaceful place-Heaven.

We continue to pray for the Peace of God that surpasses ALL understanding to touch and heal your broken heart and as we reflect on the impact Elmer had on our lives here we rejoice that we had the opportunity to know him.

May you know God's blessings, his peace, his power and strength to get you through this time or sorrow.

Love,

Alicia Embro (James' sister)

