

September 21, 2009

Gene Keith Dempsey of Apple Valley, CA lost a 5 year battle with cancer on September 18, 2009. His wife Bonnie of 30 years and their children were by his side. He was 69 years old.

Gene was born to Ewalt and Virginia Dempsey in Chicago, IL on June 13, 1940.

Gene was an avid athlete and football player in his youth and continued on to Pierce College, he was the first player to be recognized with a Heisman Trophy it remains in the halls of Pierce to this day.

Gene owned and operated a family business called Dempsey Masonry, in Van Nuys, CA for over 30 years.

He was a proud member of the Shamrock Motorcycle Club in Sun City, CA and enjoyed spending his free time racing motorcycles with his friends and family. In 1969, Gene raced his first Baja 1000 and continued racing 39 more years in the Pro Class with his brother Sam Dempsey as his partner.

One of Gene's proudest accomplishments was racing and winning the Baja 1000 (Class 60) at the age of 68 with his team, "The Geezers" in November, 2008.

Gene was the only motorcycle rider to have ridden in all 40 races and holds that record to date.

Gene is survived by his wife Bonnie, their children April, Richard, Chuck, Gene, Jason and Kelly. Along with his 9 grand children and 3 brothers Tom, Wally and Sam.

Celebration of life will be held at 12:30pm on October 8, 2009 at Puddingstone Resort Hilltop in San Dimas, CA off of Fairplex Ave. and the 10 FRWY.

Gene asked that any memorial contributions made on his behalf be sent to: Gene Dempsey Memorial Fund - Wells Fargo Bank or to his wife: Bonnie Dempsey 10925 Katepwa St, Apple Valley, CA 92308

Donations received will be distributed to the causes and charities that were close to his heart. This will include racers in need, children's charities and cancer research.

Thank you for your thoughts and prayers at this difficult time.

Chuck Dempsey

909-331-5626 or 818-996-4065 with any questions please call.