

January 4, 2009

Dear Car Folks,

Some news, sad as it may be. In our car folk extended family, there has been a sudden tragedy. On December 15<sup>th</sup> there was a fire in Stonewall, MB. at Rick Wareham's home. Both Rick and his wife Debbie Galipeault escaped alive and while Rick (in barefeet and PJ bottoms) ran to the neighbours for help, Debbie ran back inside to rescue her 3 dogs. Tragically, Debbie succumbed to the fire. Debbie's memorial service was held on Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> in Winnipeg.

Rick has blistered feet from the freezing snow and will recover in time. His only source of income is Big Rick's Hot Rod Diner on Henderson Hwy in Winnipeg. Friends are currently running the restaurant while Rick is physically recovering. Location is 379 Henderson Hwy (Henderson at Larsen Ave) & hours are Mon-Fri 8am - 3pm, & Sat. 9am - 3pm, Sundays 9am-2pm.

Last weekend many car folks were there, just stopping in to show support or volunteering in the restaurant.

There was no house insurance on the home. In lieu of flowers, a trust fund has been set up for Rick Wareham. Any donations may be made at Big Rick's Hot Rod Diner, 379 Henderson Hwy. Winnipeg, MB R2K 2H2, or at The Bank of Montreal, Springfield & Henderson Hwy (1108 Henderson Highway, Winnipeg, MB R2G 1L1 Phone# 204-985-2904).

Rick has always been the rodder's friend; occasionally storing cars for free, giving low prices on his parts for sale and doing paint and bodywork, sometimes not taking anything from someone whose finances were dire. Rick and his diner have been a wealth of connections and ideas for all things automotive. Someone at the diner always knows what is for sale or where that elusive part or ride might be.

Rick has always been a firm believer in supporting various car shows and events around town. He always had a donation ready for the Rondex Rodarama Car Show and for the Toy Run in the fall. We urge you to think of his generosity at this time and consider a donation to Rick's trust fund.

The family and friends are seeking a hall for gratis to hold a fund-raising social for Rick. Do you have any connections for halls/church halls, banquet rooms? Can you call and see what dates are available for the free hall for us? Maybe a hall at a deep deep discount? Are you interested in donating your time, money or goodies for a silent auction at Rick's fund-raiser? We ask that you contact the fundraiser group at [RicksReliefFund@yahoo.com](mailto:RicksReliefFund@yahoo.com)

All donations are greatly appreciated at this time of need. We also ask that you pass this email on to your other friends, connections or businesses that may be interested in helping out.

Thanks,

Ricks family and friends