

Plane Crash Anniversary

I remember it well. December 8, 1999 when a call came in that a plane had crashed in Bassano call area. You see, at that time the fire/ambulance calls were received at the Town Office. So; this call comes in and the EMS and fire responders are enroute...enroute to where? The details of the location were not clear, so the responders split up; some went east -some went north from highway 1. Then it was found. Relief set in at the office and I went home for the day. Early yes, but I had worked through lunch hour. I ran my errands and drove into the yard where Doug was finishing chores and shortly behind me rolled in the RCMP. Cst. Tudor gave us the news that my brother, Terry, was killed in that plane crash. That was twenty years ago this December 8th. To say our world was changed; would be an understatement.

Thankfully, there were three survivors that day; all with broken bones, cuts and head injuries. Walker Burrows survived the battle that day, only to loose him later. Two fellows know what it is like to live with head injury, as it has been twenty years. Jason Rothnie and Greg Maurer; are those survivors.

Brain injury can occur during sporting events, auto/plane accident, fall from a ladder or the most mundane activity. I brain injury is the most under talked about injury today. It is not seen and yet it is felt by the person for a lifetime. Brain injury affects victims in varying degrees of motor skills like speech, walking etc. Thinking processes including memory and personality. All or a combination of these affects have life changing results.

The Poker Walk being hosted by Bassano Royal Purple October 20, 2019 is in celebration of Jason and Greg and in memory of Terry and Walker. Southern Alberta Brain Injury Society is the benefactor of this fundraiser. We will walk from the Elks Hall to Kinsmen Park to the Playfair Lodge to the Town Office then back to the Elks Hall. At each stop a playing card will be drawn and recorded on your five dollar playing hand. The winner will receive 25% of sale of playing hands for the best poker hand. Second best poker hand will receive 15%. Then a random draw will receive 10% of sale of the playing hands. The balance of proceeds – all 50% will be donated to Southern Alberta Brain Injury Society which help victims and their families through their lifetime with living aids, referrals, support groups. Last year, SABIS assisted 350 individuals, families and allied professionals. Their website has a ton more information on this non-profit support.

You are welcome to join this Poker Walk October 20, 2019 beginning at the Elks Hall and ending at the Elks Hall with coffee and dessert.

For more information you can call Kelly at 641-2274 or Lyne at 787-2290.