

In Memory of

Scott Thatcher

1980 -2003

Carmel Pine Cone - June 6, 2003

Scott Michael Thatcher, 23 a student at Santa Barbara City College, died as a result of a traffic accident Monday in Carmel Valley.

He was born June 1, 1980, in Monterey and was a lifelong Monterey Peninsula resident. He was a 1999 Carmel High School graduate and studied environmental horticulture at Santa Barbara City College.



Photo from Scott's CHS 2003 Yearbook

Mr. Thatcher worked at Murphy's Lumberyard during high school and after graduation. He had an entrepreneurial spirit and according to his family, "could sell anything to anyone." He enjoyed drawing, photography and music. He appreciated life and took time to enjoy the people and things around him, such as sunsets, animals and his many good friends.

He also had a love for gardening that led him to study it in college as well as a passion for cars. He was proud of the 1965 Ford Mustang he restored. His car won awards at the 2000 Cherry's Jubilee in Monterey and most recently in the Pleasanton Good Guys car show.

The Editor of Good-Guys.com, Jim Aust, wrote that "we will be giving the next "Young Guys" award in memory of Scott Thatcher to honor his spirit and dedication to this great hobby."

He is survived by his parents, Michael and Cindy Thatcher of Carmel Valley; a brother Adam Thatcher of Chico; his grandmother Norene Yeropoli of Struthers, Ohio; and his partner, Natalie Van Allen of Big Sur.

The family suggest that any memorial contributions be made to: the Carmel High School Automotive Program, P. O. Box 222780, Carmel, CA 93922

Scott's parents can be reached at the e.mail address of: Redheds56@aol.com



Excerpts - Monterey County Herald - June 4, 2003

Man killed in crash in cherished car

By M. CHRISTINA MEDINA
cmedina@montereyherald.com

Scott Thatcher's last weekend was a great one. His 1965 Ford Mustang — a car that he had worked on since he was 15 — won a coveted award in a Bay Area car show on Saturday.

On Sunday, the Carmel Valley native celebrated his 23rd birthday with family and friends.

"He left a note under my coffee cup, thanking me for a poem I got him having to do with his love of gardening," his mother, Cindy, said.

The note to his mother was one of the last acts that his mother will cherish.

On Monday night, returning home from dinner at a restaurant in Monterey with a friend, Thatcher lost control of his prized muscle car on Carmel Valley Road, struck a tree and was killed.

The 1999 Carmel High graduate was studying environmental horticulture at Santa Barbara City College and was looking for work at greenhouses there. But Carmel Valley was his home.

"He rode the bike to Tularcitos school, he deejayed his 8th grade dance, he played in the river, he had a great life here," his mother said.

And he doted on his car — a blue Mustang with flashy flames. The Pleasanton Good Guys car show he went to on Saturday was one he tried to win in the past.

"It was his dream to get up there and win," said his father, Michael. "His car was overlooked (in the past) because there are so many high-dollar cars. This time he was feeling lucky and he was picked. He was so happy."

The car had also placed in its category at the 2000 Cherry's Jubilee in Monterey.

"He wasn't a perfect kid...but that's what I loved about him," his mother said. "I had him for exactly 23 years and then one day later he was gone."



Scott (age 8) and brother Adam (age 5)