

In Memorium

Craig Butcher

2nd January 1963 – 15th March 2020

The Western Cape and Zeekoe Vlei Yacht Club Laser fleets have lost once of their most enthusiastic sailors with the sad passing of Craig Butcher after a protracted, but stoically fought battle with cancer.

While attending Bergvliet High School where he matriculated in 1981, Craig expressed his talents in different ways, amongst others by attending the renowned IMPS Drama Workshop where he participated in numerous local productions. While attending the local Naval Cadets, he discovered his love of sailing and matters nautical, all of which led to his Dad building his first dinghy, a Sonnet, which he spent many happy years sailing at Imperial Yacht Club.

A change to the Laser class saw Craig joining Zeekoe Vlei Yacht Club in 2000 when he soon became one of the very regular and enthusiastic sailors both at the Club and at the various Points Regattas.

A passion for the Heavy Metal Genre resulted in Craig expanding his ever-growing music collection, especially vinyl LP records started while still a young lad, as well as becoming an avid music concert attendee, both locally and overseas.

Craig initially studied at CPUT where he completed a B. Tech Mechanical Engineering degree and continued further to successfully achieve two Masters degrees from the University of Queensland. Leaving South Africa to broaden his horizons, Craig worked in Qatar as Port Development Engineer from 2008 – 2011 whereafter he returned to South Africa to assume a position with Transnet Port Authority, his steady progress leading to the position of Principle Project Manager for Western Ports which he held until his passing. Sadly, according to his sponsoring Professor, Craig had a couple of month's work left in order to complete his dissertation and earn his PhD in Port Project Management at the University of Stellenbosch when his condition worsened.

Craig's passing is a keenly felt loss to his fellow Laser sailors as well as the many friends throughout the sailing community who were privileged to know him.

Our sincere condolences are extended to Craig's loving Wife Barbara and Daughter Caryn, as well as his Mother Dawn and Brother Grant along with the many pets of which Craig was so fond.

Sail on Craig, may the wind be always at your back and the sun shine warm upon your face!

Len Davies, March 2020.