



Ride to Celebrate the Life of Richard Tom



Richard Tom

Richard's life and cycling days were swiftly ended on Sunday morning, April 26, 2015. We believe he was just settling into the beginning of his ride when this tragic event, that has shaken so many of us, transpired. He was only a few hundred yards from his home. At age 47, Richard's ever-present passion for cycling and his life ended, despite heroic attempts (by neighbors) to revive him at the scene. Comforting words were offered to Richard as his life tragically slipped away.

Riders, Friends, Family

This is an invitation for area cyclists, CVU students and families, or others affected by the recent collision that took two lives, including Richard Tom who was riding alone in Hinesburg. Please join us for a ride in Richard's memory. Richard was valued within the cycling community for his comprehensive knowledge of bicycle mechanics and equipment and also for his leadership of group rides in the US and Europe while working with Vermont Bicycle Tours. While at Earl's Cyclery and Fitness, Richard guided many of us through the complexities of bike selection and fit. More importantly, it was Richard's ever-friendly, but professional, manner that drew many of us to develop a strong and trusting relationship with him. There has been a huge outpouring of love and caring for Richard from throughout our cycling community. While our ride will mingle depths of sorrow for this loss, we also want to celebrate Richard's life by gathering together to pay tribute to him. Those preferring not to cycle are welcome to join us either before or after the ride for conversation and remembrances.

The Ride for Richard

Where: Meet at CVU High School Parking Lot. Link to ride route and parking:

<http://thegmbc.com/Route%20and%20Parking.pdf>

When: 11 a.m., Sunday, May 3

The ride: After some words about Richard, at about 11:20 we will begin our ride with police escort to the crash site and to Richard's home (in a way, bringing Richard home). The pace will be slow, during which time, we will reflect on Richard and perhaps other loved ones during the ride. We will pass the location of the crash site where Richard and the driver, Joseph Marshall lost their lives. At the crash site, we may dismount, so that you will have a moment of peace, prayer, or communication before reversing direction. We then will ride to Richard's home (in a way, finishing Richard's ride) which is only a few hundred yards from the crash site. From there, we return to CVU. A route map will be provided.

Helmets are required to participate in the ride. Helmets may be removed briefly at the crash site as an offering of respect and tribute to lives lost.