Herb Emory: Memorial Ride

Captain Herb Emory

(excerpted from article by Ed Miles)

Captain Herb Emory was a common man with uncommon traits...

Benevolent, charitable, humane, sympathetic, generous, gracious, compassionate, kind, respectful, modest, steadfast, cheerful, warmhearted, sociable, charming, comical, merry, delightful, witty, consistent, loving, sincere, humble; all these terms have recently been used to describe Captain Herb's personal traits.

The largest group of people knew Captain Herb from hearing traffic reports on radio or seeing his helicopter cruising above traffic jams and accident scenes either from their vehicles or seeing live reports on WSB TV.

The timely updates of his traffic updates allowed advance notice of trouble spots. This void left by Captain Herb's departure left them feeling they had lost a family member.

Although Captain Herb had been in Georgia for over forty years and was considered an adopted son of the state, his roots were from the mountain region of North Carolina. In close proximity to Mount Airy, N.C., the home of Andy Griffith... so it is no coincidence that Captain Herb was such a down home folksy guy complete with a black and white replica Mayberry patrol car.

After he relocated to Atlanta he went to broadcasting school and formed ties with local racing individuals and race tracks. Over the years he continued to develop this passion with racing reports and eventually had a Saturday NASCAR radio show for the fans resulting in the longest running show of that type in the Atlanta market, with much credit in part due to Alan Vigil Ford's sponsorship.

In addition to his on-air duties with WSB Radio and TV, Herb was always willing to lend his smooth, distinctive voice to various government and civic events.

He always had a difficult time saying "no". He had numerous unnamed events that he either hosted or helped with fund raising efforts.

His last effort as he passed away was helping injured persons at a vehicle accident scene, just down the street from his house.

Jesus himself summed up all the scope of God's laws into two: Love the Lord and love your neighbor as yourself. Herb's life did all that and more, so it is up to each of left to ramp up our efforts to help others and to honor the example left by our dear friend Captain Herb Emory. *Photos by Fred Hanyon, MSA Publisher*









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