

Jack Brown 1940 - 2011

Jack Brown, a founding member of Cave Run Sailing Association and its first Commodore, passed away on April 21, 2011, at his home in St. Petersburg, Florida. He is survived by his wife, Ruthie, two sons, Christopher and Mathew, his grandchildren, and three brothers, and their families.

He was a driving force in the founding and growth of CRSA. As CRSA's first Commodore he played a key role in the initiation of our racing program and the accompanying socials, the Grand Annual Regatta, the Annual Banquet, CRSA's sailing schools and many other things.

From Kentucky Jack and Ruthie moved to Florida where he managed a marina and then a West Marine Store.

Personal reflections from some who knew Jack:

Matt Colker: "I have fond memories of Jack...mostly his commitment to the CRSA in its early stages of development. What I remember most about Jack is that he was a truly exceptional salesman at heart and seemed to have his hand in all aspects of the CRSA in the early years with another former member named Raleigh Neal.

CRSA, in the early years was not nearly as sophisticated as it is today...not just electronically-speaking, but from infrastructure as well. The first series of yearly banquets, racing series, cruising series, long weekends at the lake...all had Jack's footprint on them. He literally attracted people to the organization, and people truly liked being around him. He had that kind of charisma. Jack was ALWAYS a very positive and very encouraging person.

For those of us who knew Jack, we'll each probably make a private toast to him."

Paul Harbour: "Jack had many talents and was the key contributor to the start and success of CRSA.

In a recent telephone conversation with his wife, Ruthie, she reminded me of some things that showed how broad Jack's talents were. In addition to his organizational work Jack frequently prepared the food for the after-race socials. He would prepare and serve Boston Pork Butts, baked beans, and Cole slaw, all delicious, for the racers, their crews and the race committee.

She also told me that West Marine named a 28,000 square foot Flagship store for Jack."

Beth Jett: "Jack was absolutely essential to the formation and early success of CRSA. He was enthusiastic. He was fun and funny and could get the rest of us to do anything he wanted. We all loved him."

Jack is fondly remembered by all who knew him. He will be sorely missed. We send our condolences to his wife and family.

Mailing address for Jack's widow, Ruthie Brown, is in your membership handbooks. CRSA sent her a letter from the commodore on behalf of all members, and a burgee.

Obituary:

Keokuk, Iowa's Daily Gate City Newspaper has an on-line memorial site at

http://www.whopassedon.com/obituaryfeeds/obituary/?John_%27Jack%27_Duree_Brown&fi=557914&f=291 LINK EXPIRED

with the complete April 29 obituary posted at

<http://www.dailygate.com/articles/2011/04/29/obituaries/dgc419129.txt>

The last paragraph of the obituary includes suggested memorial contribution recipients