

IN MEMORIAM OF ANDRE PEPLER

Over years we come to meet people, meet members of the Club, long standing members, new members and members. And some over time become more than members, they become friends, they become people that you can trust, people that are not self-centred and there just for themselves, people that want to help whoever they can, some with a little more passion for Volvo than others and some with a sense of humor, some that have the interest of others at heart more than their own interest and just plain awesome people with no hang ups whatsoever.

Also a person which you come to respect and admire, a person which does not hold on to his knowledge and experience and passes that on the next generation, in this instance his sons and his friends. And despite growing old and suffering from illness he attended events....never missed a Walk to Vryheid, was at the Saamtrek....would drive one of Hersel's Volvo's if it wasn't in his 4 door 122, which he has had since Hersel's childhood! Last year they decided to rebuild it and sadly he didn't make it to enjoy it.

A panel beater/ spray painter out of the OLD school! No body putty...no way, cut it out and weld new panels and use the old lead method and filing to iron it out – skills you do not get today. Doing a lot of the work on his own....wanting to be there and be involved, until he got too sick to do that. Then he would sit on a little old chair and throw comments while working and pulling a leg or two in the process. Always involved and there, especially for his children and grandchildren, had a soft spot for Mandre who was born disabled, a lot of patience and love could be experienced.

I learnt to know Oom Andre over the years and actually grew to love him as a person, for who he is – what you see is what you get no pretences and despite his illness, always remained the same. Old and young and can certainly learn from him. Highly irritated in the last year or so, because he could not get his hands dirty and grab a spanner and help you, so he would sit on the chair and advise....and chirp and make you laugh.

You may not know but he was a provincial rugby player in the late sixties and early seventies! Played for Brakpan Rugby Club and stepped out onto the field for the old Eastern Transvaal in the Currie Cup, as a wing nogals! Well Oom Andre got very ill over the last few months, in and out of hospital, never lost his sense of humor and always remained himself through all the hardship, but lost his last battle and

passed away early November 2016. A sad loss to his loved ones, a sad loss to his family and friends and a sad loss to the old-school skills and Volvo heritage. On behalf of the Club and its members our sincerest condolences to Tannie Ria, Hersel and family, may Oom Andre rest in peace and may his legacy never fade.

