

Bryan – A tribute from Marie

You and I fell in love and thought we could not get any happier. At last we had found each other's soul mates.

When we found out that we were expecting a baby, you were over the moon. You started planning and making ideas of how you wanted to be the best daddy in the world. You talked about quad-bike tracks in the backyard, cubby houses you wanted to build, places you wanted to take our child to see. You were looking forward to teaching our child how to service your beloved Blackbird, be it a boy or a girl. You and Dave travelled to Melbourne to look at buying sidecar outfits for the three of us to all go riding together. You even wanted to train our child how to go and get you beers from the fridge!

When Em was born I had never seen anyone so happy as what you were that day. You said it was the best day in your life. You cut her cord and didn't want to wash the small amount of blood off your hands. You could not wipe the smile of your face. You stayed at the hospital all day and night to be with your two princesses.

On Mother's Day at the hospital you organized a gift from Em to me. On the card you wrote –

“Dear Mummy

Daddy has to write this for me but I love you so much and I am going to be the best little girl that a Mummy can have.”

That night at the hospital we both cried with happiness that our little family was so complete and so perfect.

The day we brought her home together was truly one of the happiest in both our lives. I am so glad that we had been blessed with the opportunity that the last month of your life was spent on annual leave, the three of us at home, relishing in our family life together.

You were thrilled to get your tattoo: Em's full name written around the Celtic Cross on your arm. You could not stop boasting about how clever it was that Em's name and two middle names were also the names of the three women that meant the most to you in your life: Emily your daughter, Elizabeth your mum, and me, Marie. You said you were now marked for life and loved the three of us so so much.

The morning of the day you were taken from us all, Em and I came to wave you off on the bike ride. The last moment we had together was before you put your helmet on: You kissed the both of us, gave us each a hug and told me “I love you”. We watched you ride off. It could not have been more perfect.

Only the other week, we were all sitting together. You were cuddling Em and thanked me for giving you the gift of her. You turned to me and said:

“You know something? I am so happy. I have you, I have our baby, I have my house, I have my dogs, I have my bike and I have my mates.”

You died a happy man I am sure of this. And you will live on in our beautiful Em. You will never be forgotten by the two of us, you will always live in our hearts. You called us your Rainbow Princesses and every time we see a rainbow we know that it's you, checking in on us and letting us know how much you love us. We love you Bryan, we love you Daddy.

Marie Innes & Emily White

