Michael Dean Shedd

Obituary

By Kay Powell The Atlanta Journal-Constitution Published on: 02/19/08

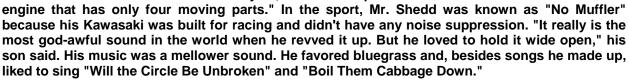
Mike Shedd was a musician motorcyclist; lover of bikes, music and stories

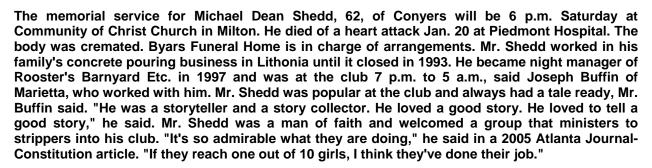
Licensed to race motorcycles at 140 miles per hour, Mr. Shedd set a slower musical pace when he

picked up a fiddle, accordion, banjo or a set of bagpipes, all of which he taught himself to play. He raced a 1971 Kawasaki G31M Centurion, modified from a flat track motorcycle to a land speed racer, said his son, Travis Shedd of Conyers. Mr. Shedd's other musical instruments — which he never taught himself to play but enjoyed owning — were guitars, a harpsichord and a Dobro, he said.

"He was very musical. That's where his artistry was," said his daughter Cassandra Shedd of Cumming. "He was a natural musician. He could just hear music and play it." Mr. Shedd was just as in tune with the motorcycles he raced on tracks from Maxton, N.C., to the Bonneville Salt Flats in Utah. He set most of the many records he held with his 1971 Kawasaki, a motorcycle designed for flat track racing. He kept the motorcycle when he gave up flat track competing, then 30 years later overhauled it to compete in land speed racing through the East Coast Timing Association.

"He did most of his own fabrication," his son said. "He was real clever at that. It is a twostroke motorcycle, and he was proud of the





"He was very iconoclastic. He could care less what anybody else thought," his daughter said. "He had a really deep faith in God. As Bohemian or hard-living as he was, he ardently believed in redemption of the soul. He had a sense of faith that always surprised me."

Survivors include his wife, Susan Shedd; another daughter, Courtney Windey of Long Island, N.Y.; two sisters, Diana Koehler of Smithfield, R.I., and Sara Tubbesing of Overland Park, Kan.; and a granddaughter.



Obituary:

Michael Dean Shedd, age 62, of Conyers, formerly of Columbia, MO, passed away January 20, 2008. A Memorial Service will be held at 6 P.M. on Saturday, February 23rd at Community of Christ Church, 3315 Francis Road, Milton GA 30004. Pastor Nancy Evans will officiate. Mr Shedd, a retired construction contractor, was an active member of the E.C.T.A. East Coast Timing Association., he also is a record holder in Land Speed Racing. Survivors include: wife, Susan Shedd of Conyers; son, Travis Shedd of Conyers; daughters, Cassandra Shedd of Cumming and Courtney Windey of Long Island, NY; sister, Diana Koehler of Smithfield RI; sister, Sara Tubbesing of Overland Park, KS; granddaughter, Sabrina Katzman. Byars Funeral Home & Cremation Services. 678-455-5825