



Patrick Porter

May 31, 1959 - July 26, 2012

PORTER, PATRICK (PAT) R.

Our beloved Pat, age 53 of Albuquerque, died Thursday, July 26th. He was with his treasured son Connor (15) and great friend Connor Mantsch in an airplane accident in Sedona, Arizona on July 26th. Pat was a two-time U.S. Olympic Team Member (1984, 1988) in the 10,000 meters. He was a world record holder, twelve-time U.S. National Champion, won a record-setting eight-time consecutive USA Track and Field Senior Men's Cross Country National titles, he's in the Guinness book of World Records, he represented the U.S. at the World Cross Country Championships from 1982-1989 and placed 4th, 6th, 7th, 9th, 10th, and 11th throughout his career. He was inducted into the following hall of fames: NAIA, RMAC two-time inductee, and Adams State Athletic Hall of Fame. He was an All American at Adams State College, and was on three NAIA National Cross Country Championship teams. In 1998 he played Finnish distance runner LasseViren in the movie Without Limits a biographical film about American distance legend Steve Prefontaine. He competed for Athletics West, Nike, Mizuno and Pearl Izumi throughout his running career. He was a top salesman for Centex Homes, new homes construction, and won a plethora of awards including a car. He graduated from Adams State College in 1982, was a pilot, NRA member, and attended Calvary of Albuquerque. But more important than all of his amazing achievements was how he could make others laugh, touched lives, gave to others, and loved his family. He was our strength, our rock, our protector and

the one who made us laugh from morning until bedtime. His commitment and dedication to those he loved and what he believed in was visible throughout his life. His impact on both the running and airplane community reaches around the world. Pat loved spending time with his children and wife. He spent countless hours helping Connor and Shannon with their homework or bible verse memorization, flying family and friends throughout the country, shopping with his girls, and lying on the floor playing with his dog Theo. He enjoyed collecting art, watching movies, riding his Harley or bike, flying, and shooting. Pat had strong convictions including the first amendment. We are comforted knowing that because of Pat's personal relationship with Jesus Christ we will see him again in heaven one day. Pat would want each of you to come to know Jesus through this tragedy. We will miss him terribly and our lives and hearts have a huge hole. Also, we pray for the comfort to the Connor Mantsch family whose son was with Connor and Pat on their boy's trip. It was evident to all their last days were a total blast. Pat is survived by his Honey and wife of twenty years and 1988 U.S. Olympian Trish King Porter; Punkin girl Shannon Porter; father, Jack Everett Porter and mother, Ruth Taylor Porter from Cedar Edge, Colorado; twin sister Patricia Porter Van Inwagen and Chris Van Inwagen from Evergreen, Colorado. A Celebration of Life will be held Sunday, August 19th, 2:30 pm at Calvary of Albuquerque. For friends who wish, in lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Albuquerque Academy @ www.aa.edu/giving <http://www.aa.edu/giving> or Operation Heal Our Patriots (OHOP) with checks made out to Samaritan's Purse with OHOP in memory of Pat and Connor Porter in the memo line, P.O. Box 3000, Boone, NC 28607-3000.

Tribute Wall

GG

“ Our son, Bill, knew Pat at Adams State. (In fact, they went to Pueblo to get tattoos together!) Our son spoke so highly of Pat and we extend our heartfelt sympathy to you and yours. Words fail. Wanda and Gordon Golsan Rio Rancho, NM

Gordon/Wanda Golsan - September 24, 2012 at 12:00 AM

PB

“ I went to college with Pat. My biggest memory of him was Pat running everywhere. A day didn't go by when I didn't see him running somewhere in Alamosa. I think he ran in his sleep. He was a nice guy. I'm sorry to his family for this tremendous loss. ASC has lost a great alumni!!

Paula Gamblie Burky - September 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DP

“ Pat lived his life with a smile on his face and joy in his heart. A life lesson we can all emulate.

Doug/Rebecca Porter - August 19, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MB

“ Trish & Shannon: I remember you and Pat from when you two were newlyweds in Alamosa and going to ASC (now ASU). We didn't know your son, but it sounds like he was an amazing person, just like his Dad. Words can't begin to express our sadness for you, but it is great news knowing both of them are with our Lord and we will see them one day again. Please know you have been in our thoughts and prayers and if there is ever anything we can do to help, please let us know. God Bless Trish & Shannon! Love, Tim & Marci Bachicha

Marci Bachicha - August 16, 2012 at 12:00 AM

KW

“ I worked with Pat for 10 years at Centex Homes. Pat was a wonderful salesman and a great person. Pat will be missed by all who knew him. Wish I could be there for the celebration of life but I now live in Denver and cannot make it. My thoughts and prayers are with Trish and Shannon

Karen Warnock - August 15, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ Words cannot express the sorrow we feel over this tragic accident but we know he is in a wonderful place now, as is Conner. Pat was such an example to so many young people, he touched so many lives. God bless you, those remaining and waiting to join them someday. God in His mercy will bless you.

David E., Patty Ryker and Family - August 11, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MC

“ I first had the honor of being able to meet Pat in May 1979 while aboard a Continental Trailways bus from Denver back to Monte Vista, Colorado, thus had a very enjoyable time visiting with him during that bus trip. Then, a few years later, when crossed paths with him again on the campus of Adams State College(now Adams State University) in Alamosa, Colorado, when he was well-known in the college distance running community, Pat was still the same kind of "down-to earth"friendly person. Thus, I wish to extend my heartfelt condolences to his family, parents, and other relatives and close friends of Patrick R. Porter.

Mike Crawford - August 11, 2012 at 12:00 AM

HP

“ I went to high school with Pat. He was a year younger than me but we were good friends. When I think about him I remember him laughing and playing pranks, always smiling. Please know that Pat is being remembered here in Colorado with many kind words and memories. May you find peace in his memory. Hannah Prichett Price EHS Class of '76

Hannah Prichett Price - August 09, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MD

“ In my mind's eye, I can see Pat running around Alamosa and the San Luis Valley. Those long legs covered a lot of scenic miles. His drive and endurance inspired us to be better people.

Mike and Kristi DuBay - August 07, 2012 at 12:00 AM

LS

“ Trish ~ I volunteered when your previous home was in the Parade of Homes. The heart remembers mostWhat it has loved bestMay memories comfort you & ShannonAnd bring you peace.In sympathy & hope,Lesley Salazar

Lesley Salazar - August 07, 2012 at 12:00 AM

SG

“ I remember the Porter's from working out at HighPoint. We have been in Denver now for 5 years, but I got a chance, while living in Albuquerque to know the Porter family. Trish was such a wonderful inspiration to me and always encouraged me to run harder, faster, and not be afraid to excel. I loved her kids and got a chance to see them while working in the day care at HighPoint. Bless you Trish and Shannon, and may the spirits of Pat and Connor be with you always!

Shannon Gauer - August 06, 2012 at 12:00 AM

AF

“ Pat's life is an example of a life well lived. All men should be the kind of husband & father in their own way that Pat's legacy represents. Luke 14:26

Alan Favre - August 05, 2012 at 12:00 AM

FS

“ On behalf of the French Family of Companies, we express our deepest condolences.

Francisco Delgado and Staff - August 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM