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In loving memory

On Saturday, July 31, 45 golfers teed off at Barry's Bay Golf Course in the second annual charity tournament in memory of Thomas P. Jasinski, and in support of the scholarship fund for business students that was established by Thomas' family and friends last year, in his memory and honour.

At only 17, Thomas was an accomplished musician, dancer, tech wizard, budding entrepreneur, and busy Grade 12 A-student at Holy Trinity Catholic Secondary School in Oakville, Ontario. As a testament to Thomas' commitment to his own success, he had been accepted at five universities as he prepared for the next phase of his life in the fall of 2009. He had a love of learning, a passion for business and technology, and above all a desire and commitment to help others succeed in their personal and academic lives. He always looked for ways to improve things around him without expecting or looking for compensation in return.

Tragically, Thomas was killed in a single-vehicle collision in Mississauga on March 31, 2009. He was returning home about 1 a.m. and was just one highway exit away from home when the Jeep Wrangler he was driving entered a ditch, became airborne and crashed into an overpass. Police concluded that he simply fell asleep at the wheel and that there were no other contributing factors. In keeping with the way he lived his life until that tragic moment, Thomas had earlier that evening been counselling a high school friend who was experiencing some classic pre-graduation anxiety.

Thomas and his father Tony shared a

lot in common, including a very generous heart. That he had been aiding a friend was no surprise to Tony. "He was focused on helping his friends deal with difficulties in life and school," he says.

After his death the Thomas P. Jasinski Scholarship Fund was created. The fund is a charity registered with the Canada Revenue Agency, established to provide scholarships to high school students wishing to pursue post-secondary education and a career in the business world, with a view to setting up their own business. The fund's mission is to "commemorate Thomas Jasinski's love of learning and his passion for business and technology as well to perpetuate the memory of a son who wanted, above all, to help others." In 2009, and again this year, three students entering university each received \$2,000 from the fund.

Thomas' family has been coming to this area for more than 40 years and has owned cottages on Wadsworth Lake for over 20 of those years. Thomas enjoyed the cottage experience his whole life. "Thomas loved the slower pace," says his father, Tony. "He loved stargazing with his telescope, fishing, swimming, boating, ATV riding, and skiing and building snow forts in winter."

Repeating his inaugural win of last year, Marian Grys headed a team of Mathew Grys, Greg Budziak, Ryan Broadhead, and Roman Kuliczkowski, taking the honours again this year. However this year's win wasn't a walk-away for the Grys team. Congratulations also to the team of John Archbold, Jim McDonnell, Pete Wojas, Steve Aucoin, and Pearce McDonnell, headed by Andrew Oziewicz, who gave Team Grys



Team Grys, made up of Ryan Broadhead, left, Roman Kuliczkowski, Mathew Grys, Greg Budziak and headed by last year's champion Marian Grys, far right, took the title in a nailbiter, just barely edging the second place team of John Archbold, Jim McDonnell, Pete Wojas, Steve Aucoin, and Pearce McDonnell, headed by Andrew Oziewicz.

Photo submitted

a whisker-thin run for the honours, which was ultimately resolved by a putting competition.

Tony and his wife Wanda express their thanks and gratitude to everyone who has supported the charity, and the golf tournament. Sponsors this year included Action Total Service Concepts Inc., Barry's Bay Esso, Barry's Bay Home Hardware, Barry's Bay Valu-Mart, Capital Brand, Coleman Containers, Fia Plumbing, Griffin Tech-

nology Ltd, Kam Keg Marine, Kitt Services Inc., and Thomhold Inc. Special thanks go to Barry's Bay Golf for all their help, and all of the volunteer committee.

Tony and Wanda will be working with Barry's Bay area high schools to award the first scholarships in this area in June 2011.

For more information on the Fund, visit online at www.thomasjasinski.com.



Wanda and Tony Jasinski, left, started the scholarship fund to give other aspiring and ambitious young students the opportunity to win some financial assistance as they go on from high school to post secondary studies in business.

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