Sports

A fitting tribute to a lost brother

When Peter Michael Abbott passed away on Sept. 13, 1999, it came as a shock to his family, friends and all who knew him. He was only 39 years old when he died of a heart attack and had a love for life. Abbott was a former soccer and football player who loved to keep fit. He was a regular at the gym and enjoyed playing in charity races. Abbott's death left a void in the community and his family were devastated. His death was a reminder of how life can be taken away in an instant.

Having been a tremendous athlete during his days growing up in Peterborough, along with his three brothers, the Abbott name is synonymous with Coral and athletic history. He was a Coral academic scholar who had been selected by the Coral Board of Trustees for the Coral Outstanding Academic Scholarship for the past two years. Having been selected in 2000 and 2001, Abbott was posthumously inducted into the Coral Hall of Fame in June with his three brothers, Ray, Philip and Bob, and family and friends.

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A lasting memory for a lost brother

GOODWIN...from page 11

Abbott's family with the 2nd annual Peter Michael Abbott Memorial 5K Run and Fitness Walk.

While a good number of road races generate money for profit, this race is far from that. The 5K run and fitness walk is a way to raise money for the memorial fund. It is a one-day thing that also includes a concert. It's also an opportunity for people to come together to honor Abbott's memory.

The Abbott Memorial Fund was the most appropriate way to carry on his name. Abbott's family and friends have been working hard to raise money for the fund, and the money raised is used to fund scholarships and other activities that were important to Abbott. The fund has been very successful, and the community has come together to support it.

Since Abbott died so suddenly, there is no desire to make sure there is the appropriate information out there. So on Saturday, 114 people participated in the Peter Michael Abbott Memorial 5K Run and Fitness Walk. The total participation grew by more than 166 over the first year and with any luck the trend will continue next year in 2012. It is unfortunate that Abbott had his accident at such a relatively young age. But what his family did for him in his memory is incredible.

It truly shows just how much he meant to all those he met.

And that kind of love is what keeps people around.