



Greer Enterprises and Nokian Tyres - 2010 Sno*Drift

Jon Davis Hakkapelitta Award

The Finnish word Hakkapeliita roughly means "Charger" when translated into English and is used that way in the Nokian corporate culture. Jon Davis, a former competitor, Chairman of the Press On Regardless, and founder of the legendary Library bar, exemplified that ideal his whole life. Recently Jon passed away. In honor of Jon's memory (see below) Greer Enterprises/Nokian Tyres has agreed to award a set of Hakkapelitta tyres to the Sno*Attack competitor who best exemplifies Jon's "Charger" approach toward rally. A panel consisting of representatives of Greer Enterprises (Dave Parps), Sno*Drift (Joe Andreini), and Doug Shepherd ("0" car driver) will determine the recipient of this award.



Passed on December 27, 2009
JON M. DAVIS, A WELL KNOWN AREA BUSINESSMAN UNEXPECTEDLY
PASSED AWAY AT HOME.

HE WAS BORN ON AUGUST 9, 1936 IN STANTON, MICHIGAN THE SON OF THE LATE MORRIS AND RUTH MARION (SOMMERS) DAVIS. AS A CHILD, HE MOVED WITH HIS FAMILY TO IONIA MICHIGAN AND GRADUATED FROM THE IONIA HIGH SCHOOL.

AFTER HIGH SCHOOL, JON ATTENDED MICHIGAN TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY. AFTER 3 YEARS OF COLLEGE, JON WORKED FOR THE STATE OF MICHIGAN AS A SURVEYOR UNTIL RETURNING TO HOUGHTON TO COMPLETE HIS EDUCATION.

ON MAY 29, 1960 JON WAS UNITED IN MARRIAGE TO THE FORMER MARCIA JONES. TOGETHER THE COUPLE RESIDED IN GREENVILLE, AND LANSING MICHIGAN UNTIL MOVING TO HOUGHTON IN 1966. IN 1967 JON PURCHASED THE BOARD OF TRADE BAR IN HOUGHTON AND CHANGED THE NAME TO THE LIBRARY, WHICH HE OWNED AND OPERATED UNTIL 1989.

JON ENJOYED PROMOTING ACTIVITIES LOCALLY AND NATIONALLY. HE PROMOTED THE GUTS FRISBEE TOURNAMENT LOCALLY AND NATIONALLY, EVENTUALLY HAVING A TOURNAMENT AT THE ROSE BOWL IN PASADENA, CALIFORNIA.

ONE OF JONS PASSIONS WAS RALLY RACING. HE STARTED IN THE SPORT IN THE EARLY 60S WINNING THE POR IN 1964. IN 1977 JON SUCCEEDED IN GETTING THE POR/LSPR HEADQUARTERED IN HOUGHTON WHERE IT STILL RUNS TODAY. JON WON TWO NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS IN THE PRODUCTION CLASS IN 1980 AND 1981. IN 1982 FORD SPONSORED JON FOR A SEASON. IN 1983 JON STEPPED BACK FROM RACING TO HELP PROMOTE THE SPORT. IN 1986 HE HELPED ORGANIZE SEAT BELTS ACROSS AMERICA, AND FROM 1986 UNTIL 2001 JON PLANNED THE COURSE FOR THE ONE LAP OF AMERICA RACE.

LOCALLY, HE HELPED START THE FIREWORKS DISPLAY OVER THE PORTAGE CANAL ORIGINALLY ON THE JULY 4TH WEEKEND AND THEN MOVING IT TO WINTER CARNIVAL WEEKEND. HE ALSO HELPED ORGANIZE SNOWBALLS TO TEXAS.

MR. DAVIS RETIRED FROM MOST OF HIS ENDEAVORS TO CARE FOR HIS AILING WIFE IN 2001. SHE PRECEDED HIM IN DEATH IN 2002.

JON WAS A LIFELONG MEMBER OF WEIGHT WATCHERS AND WAS VERY PROUD THAT HE WAS ABLE TO LOSE 150 POUNDS. HE ALSO WAS A LIFETIME MEMBER OF THE KEWEENAW CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

SURVIVING ARE HIS CHILDREN; GREG OF HOUGHTON, LEE OF GRAND RAPIDS AND ERIC OF KALAMAZOO, GRANDDAUGHTER MADELINE, HIS BROTHER AND SISTER IN LAW CAL AND JEN LUDEMA, CURTIS AND DOUG JONES, AND SEVERAL NIECES AND NEPHEWS.

A GRAVESIDE SERVICE WILL BE HELD FOR JON AT THE EAGLE HARBOR CEMETARY LATER THIS YEAR.