



~ Requiem for Joe, a member of the I-500 family. ~

For he put his heart and soul into bringing information to the fans as they stand on the bluffs overlooking all the exciting action of the world's greatest snowmobile race. His voice recognized by those of us who knew he'd be there announcing all that happens, year after year.

There was never a question as to who would be behind the microphone on the hill. It's Joe, year after year. He always approached his broadcasting like the drivers prepare for the race. Looking ahead to give spectators all they needed to know during the race and week leading up to the main event.

Joe prepared his presentations with excitement and desire to bring the crowd closer to the event with his "trivia questions" and giving of prizes for correct answers. He directed that part of his involvement like a champion pit crew chief. He did it with pride and love for the I-500 event year after year. A volunteer like no other in his own respect.

Always considered a part of the I-500 family and never taken for granted. Joe always looked out for the best interest of the event in general.

Always trying to bring his listeners all he could to keep their interest alive and he did it well and like no other could.

We watched him plan his work and work his plan for the I-500. Putting thought into his "trivia" questions and appreciation for those who donated items for him to give to those with correct answers. He simply loved asking I-500 trivia questions and receiving calls that answered them. He loved communicating with his public and sharing all he knew about the event and what it has offered throughout its 42 year history.

Joe took his play by play announcing seriously and it was obvious to us all, there's no other who could do it better! Knowing he was the man who would take control of announcing event activities throughout race week and during the main event, we as directors didn't have to worry about who would be doing this. He took it upon himself to manage this aspect of the race and he did it with pride. We simply knew we could depend on Joe in that regard.

Those who participate as volunteers for the I-500 are considered our "team members". Just as race teams have pit crew members that make up their teams. Joe is one of our team members and always will be.

Joe will be missed and thought of throughout the many years of I-500 racing ahead of us. He certainly holds a title in his own rights as a leader and team member of the I-500 family.

Thank you for the many loyal years of volunteer service you gave to the I-500 snowmobile race and so many fans, Joe.....

You'll be missed by us all.