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Sturgis 2009 Digest Part I

Sturgis 2009... the reports have been coming in for the past ten or twelve days and here is the digested version of what has been going down. For those that didn't make it this year, start planning to be there next year. Hell, drop me a note and you can plan to meet up with me and the boys while you are there.

Bruce Rossmeyer, Harley mogul and owner of 15 dealerships, was killed in a motorcycle accident on the way to meet the Hamsters MC in Wyoming. He was passing a truck and trailer on the left and did not see the vehicle signaling for a left hand turn. Unfortunately, Rossmeyer collided with the truck and was thrown under the rear wheels. Over 1000 people attended his funeral in Ormond Beach. During the funeral procession, a motorcycle hearse that was led by 20 motorcycles and followed by 30 more carried Rossmeyer. Unfortunately, six of the lead motorcycles officers ended up crashing into one another leaving two injured. Luckily, the accident was not serious, the officers were not badly hurt, and the damage to their bikes was minor.



We all know that the weather at the rally can, and often does, turn on a dime, but this year it seems that there were more storms than ever before. And the hail, oh the hail! When my Ol' Lady and I were on our honeymoon in Sturgis 2003, I remember the hail coming out of nowhere. I immediately laid down on the tank to protect the bike, leaving my poor bride to fight off the hail as we sailed down the highway with nothing to protect her from the little balls of ice... poor girl. Anyway, this year saw 2 and 3-inch diameter hail that broke windows, dented cars and bikes, and injured at least two people. I bet Little d wasn't there with me this time! Steven Tyler of Aerosmith was taken to a hospital after falling from stage during a concert at the Buffalo Chip. Tyler, 59, was on the stage's catwalk when he fell. Tyler is recovering in Boston with a broken shoulder and stitches in his head. The Aerosmith tour is now on hold.



David Cook was the first American to win the AMD World Championship of Bike Building. Eighty-three of the world's best custom motorcycles competed in this year's event. The rest of the winners and winning news follows:

Production Manufacturer Class

Entry must be based on a production motorcycle with over 50 units of the model produced annually. Any modifications are accepted. Class is designed for entrants whose principal business is producing production motorcycles.