



Crash death... Ross

Tributes to soldier in biking tragedy

By SEAN RYAN

TRIBUTES have been paid to an Army private who lost his life in a motorcycling accident at the weekend.

Pte Ross 'Mull' Mulligan, 31, a native of Dublin, died in a single-vehicle crash at Killnashee, Drumlish, in Co Longford, at about 1.15am on Saturday.

It is believed that Pte Mulligan was travelling to see friends.

Locals said Ross was "a lovely man who loved motorbikes and was a great soldier".

He had served abroad in Syria in the 67th Inf GP UNDOF. He was also a member of the Devil's Disciples motorcycle club.

The Irish Defence Force Veterans said: "With sadness we have learned of the passing of Pte Ross Mulligan from the 1 mech coy Curragh and formerly of 7th Infantry Battalion."

Gardai appealed for witnesses or anyone with dashcam footage of the crash to come forward.



Inspirational... Joey

Duathlon tribute for uncle lost to the sea

By ANN MOONEY

A BOY has dedicated a gruelling sea challenge to the memory of his beloved uncle who died in a trawler tragedy.

Joey Gabriel, 13, was heartbroken following the death of popular Kinsale fisherman Des Hurley, 28, 200km off the South-West coast in December.

But he bravely channelled his grief into exercise with the help of friend and personal trainer Mickey Power.

The tough Duathlon for Des on Saturday saw Joey kayak crossing back to the Bulman Bar to James Fort in Co Cork, followed by a 10km run.

He then finished with a 1km kayak crossing back to the Bulman, where he was cheered on by hundreds of well-wishers in the town.

The Duathlon for Des fundraising page on iDonate has already topped €17,000 and will remain open for donations.

GIVEN LIFETIME BAN, BUT..



'SHOWN NO REMORSE'

Scene of the fatal smash and, right, Kelly

Something is wrong with legal system

Killer driver

back on roads

VICTIM'S FAMILY FURIOUS AT DECISION

A KILLER driver who received a lifetime driving ban for causing the death of a young woman could soon be back on our roads.

The Irish Sun can reveal Brian Kelly – who has never shown any remorse over the death of Claire Hennessy – had his licence returned by the Court of Appeal last month.

Claire, 24, was a passenger in a Honda Civic driven by Kelly when it crashed into the side of a property at Rossleaghan, Portlaoise, on October 18, 2008.

In the months after Claire's death, her heartbroken boyfriend Kevin took his own life after struggling with her loss.

Although Kelly was convicted of dangerous driving causing her death and got a two-year suspended sentence, the lifetime driving ban he had received back in 2009 has now been lifted.

Claire's sister Yvonne described the decision to return Kelly's licence as "sickening". She said: "It is

EXCLUSIVE by STEPHEN BREEN

impossible to believe that the drunk driver who caused the death of my sister has been permitted to get back behind the wheel of a car.

"Brian Kelly sat in the court like a scolded schoolboy.

"I thought at some stage he might ask if he could approach us, to say something, anything.

"Maybe to say he was sorry. But he is not sorry.

"He appealed a lifetime driving ban that was imposed for the most outrageous driving causing death, because he simply doesn't care.

"There is something very wrong with someone who can feel so little remorse.

"There is also something very wrong with our legal system. In Ireland, it looks as if the first offence is free.

Death... Claire and, right, Yvonne

Claire was killed horrifically. Kelly was conscious, talking, but was unable to say what had happened to cause the crash.

"When the judges heard from both sides, it sounded like they understood the magnitude of what Brian Kelly had done to our family, and how his appalling driving should be reflected in his sentencing.

"His driving was appalling and this ruling clearly states that a lifetime driving ban means nothing. I just hope and pray no other person loses their life now that he has been permitted to drive again."

Following the court's ruling, solicitor Christopher Stanley from KRW law in Belfast has made

a formal request to Attorney General Rossa Fanning SC to direct a new inquest into the case.

The human rights lawyer has also written to local TDs about the case. Mr Stanley added: "Fol-

lowing the decision, KRW has again written to the Attorney General requesting an acknowledgement of the application that a fresh inquest is directed into the death of Claire Hennessy and that he makes a decision on that application very soon.

"It's hoped that local TDs will bring this matter to the Dail and support the application made by Claire Hennessy's family to the Attorney General for a fresh investigation to deliver truth, justice and accountability regarding all the surrounding circumstances of her tragic death."

Yvonne added: "My grandmother died heartbroken – Claire's friends are not alright.

"They can barely ever talk to me when I still meet them.

"The multiple lives devastated by Kelly crashing his car into a residential building so fast that it exploded the kitchen units on the other side of the concrete wall aren't ever going to be consoled or freed from the pain and nightmares.

"The removal of his licence was a small inconvenience compared to my family's loss."

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