

Ian Lee Tilmann

10/26/76 – 5/26/05



Ian Tilmann loved skateboarding and spent many hours enjoying the sport. He loved feeling the wind surrounding him as he sped downhill carving each and every curve of the road beneath him. He was fearless with a strong belief in enjoying life to its fullest. He was a street surfer....his passion was Longboarding.

On the evening of May 16, 2005, Ian and several friends were skateboarding down Hercules Ave. in Clearwater, FL on a run known locally as Cemetery Hill. As he was making his last run down the hill that evening his skateboard locked up on a "wheel bite" and he was thrown headfirst onto the pavement. Ian was **NOT** wearing a helmet and as a result he suffered severe Traumatic Brain Injuries (TBI). Ian never regained consciousness and died 10 days later on May 26, 2005. Our beloved son was 28

years old. When people hear Ian's story many ask with shock and disbelief "he died from falling off a skateboard"? Ian's Mom, Dad and family were devastated by Ian's death and the inevitable question; Why did this happen? Would a helmet have saved Ian's life that fateful night?

The answer to that question and how Ian's Mom, Marcy Tilmann resolved the issue is shared on our website in [Ian Tilmann's Story](#) by Roxanne Wilder of Catch 47 TV Tampa Florida. This heartfelt report is an excellent introduction to Marcy Tilmann, the Mom who decided to reach all Skaters with Ian's message. Learn more about Ian Tilmann and his life growing up in Safety Harbor, Florida. Ian was musically talented and he played brass horns in Countryside High School March Band and the Suncoast Sound Drum and Bugle Corps. Ian was a US Marine and joined upon turning 18. After serving 4 years Ian received an Honorable Discharge and returned to civilian life to pursue his dreams cut short by a tragic Life Decision.



The Ian Tilmann Foundation, Inc. is a 501.3c charity based in Safety Harbor, Florida (Tampa Bay). The mission of The Ian Tilmann Foundation is prevention of Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) with a focus on Skateboarding. We accomplish our mission with programs designed for Skaters. The Foundation is pro-active in reaching out to Skaters nationwide working with

"Old School" Skaters creating a movement and positive force in the world of Skateboarding. Skaters of all ages including "Old School" Skaters (over 30), Longboarders, Street Skaters, Bowl, Vert and Skate Park Riders who always wear helmets are signing up to join **Helmet Nation**[™]. We are building a mass movement of Skaters who choose to always wear helmets and encourage others to do the same. Those Skaters who join **Helmet Nation**[™] help reach Skaters who need a helmet but can not afford the \$40-60 to buy one. Skaters can receive a FREE helmet if they Promise to wear it every time they Skate. The **Helmet for a Promise**[™] program will provide a FREE a custom ordered Skaters helmet if they Promise to wear it every time they Skate.

Helmet Nation[™] is an OPT-IN movement of Skaters who choose to wear helmets whenever they Skate. Helmet Nation seeks commitment to promote Skating "Smart" knowing full well there is nothing safe about action sports and Skateboarding in particular. Many Skaters know the truth because they have been there, fallen many times as they became Masters of the sport. Most Skaters are in total denial about the risks of TBI and typically disdain helmets. The fact is in 2009, over 23,114 head injuries were treated in Emergency Rooms nationwide from Skateboarding TBI, an average of 3 Skaters per hour 24/7. **Helmet Nation**[™] members know the facts and make the smart choice to wear a helmet whenever they Skate. There is only one proven cure for Traumatic Brain Injury....it is called PREVENTION!

Helmet for a Promise[™] is an OPT-IN Free Helmet program for Skaters who do not own a helmet and can not afford to buy one. The **Helmet for a Promise**[™] approach is simple and direct. If a Skater will Promise to wear the helmet whenever they Skate, they receive a custom ordered helmet for FREE. Helmets offered include top Skate brands such as S-ONE and Bern in a wide range of styles and colors. Each Skater gets to choose their helmet style

and color, which is sized to fit properly. **Helmet for a Promise™** requires a form Registration completed with the required information and a signed Promise. The Registrations for Free Helmets are released as funds become available. Skaters are asked to OTP-IN to the email registry that forms Helmet Nation. Once a Skater joins Helmet Nation and receives the helmet, we continue to stoke Skaters and their crews to Pay it Forward and spread the word on the Streets and Skate Parks about our program.

Skate Parks

The Foundation works with local Skate Parks and "Old School" Skaters as co-hosts for Skate Contests. Our Sponsors support these events with prizes, Skate Pros and Skate product for raffle prizes. The Skate events typically raise adequate funds to pay the cost of the helmets Promised at the event. Since 2005, we have co-sponsored over 65 events placing 1,000's helmets. We ask Old School Skaters to step up for helmets, work for the benefit of all Skaters and start a **Helmet for a Promise™** program in their community.

The Ian Tilmann Foundation, Inc. was incorporated in November 2005 as a Florida Non-Profit corporation. The Foundation is certified as a Public Charity under the Internal Revenue Code 501(c)(3) with Florida Tax Exemption.



MARCY TILMANN, PRESIDENT AND FOUNDER

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT

To continue our programs and further the mission of the Foundation, we seek contributions, product donations, volunteers and Corporate Sponsors to sustain the Foundation.

CONTRIBUTIONS

Financial contributions are applied almost entirely to the helmet program costing about \$25.00/helmet. Administrative costs are less than 15% of expenses. We are an all volunteer organization. **PRODUCT SPONSORS** are needed for contest awards and raffle prizes for our skate events. Skate Shop co-sponsors are welcome. **CORPORATE SPONSORS** are needed for sustained funding of the Foundation. Please help us grow as we building **Helmet Nation™** in Skate World...one Brain at a time!

To learn more please visit our websites at:

www.theiantilmanfoundation.org

www.facebook.com/iantilman

Please contact us:

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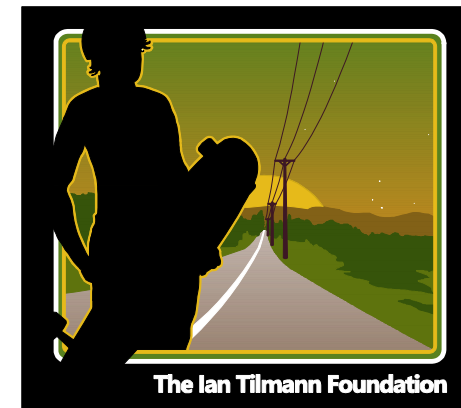
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THE IAN TILMANN



FOUNDATION, INC™

**SKATE SMART...
WEAR A HELMET...
LIVE TO SKATE
TOMORROW!™**

We thank our Sponsors



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