The start of the 2011 school year has begun sadly for Brunswick Secondary College with news of the tragic death of our former student, Hayden Desira. Hayden died while swimming with friends at Eltham last Sunday, his family and friends keeping vigil until police were able to recover his body the next day.

It is hard to find words to adequately express the sadness and sorrow that we feel knowing that Hayden’s promising young life has been cut so cruelly short. There simply are no words to convey how deeply we feel for his parents, Sharon and Kevin, and his brothers, Ryan (an ex Brunswick student) and Evan who is in Year 11 this year. We can only imagine their shock and grief. We offer them our deepest sympathy.

Hayden Scott Desira attended Coburg West Primary School, moving to Brunswick Secondary College for Year 7-12. After graduating in 2008, Hayden obtained an apprenticeship in Carpentry. This was expected as Hayden always had the goal of being a carpenter and a combination of talent and determined effort saw him excel in this field. Hayden was not only highly talented in practical construction skills, he was excellent at architectural drawing. His design folio is still used by our Woodwork teacher to teach and inspire our senior students and to make them aware of the possibilities in design work. This week the folio will be put on display in the library as a tribute to Hayden.

Teachers remember Hayden fondly. All agree that he was a very responsible and respectful student who was always polite and always did the right thing. A quiet and thoughtful student, he was friendly to teachers and students alike. As Margaret Mouratidis his English teacher for two years said, ‘It was a pleasure to have Hayden as a student, you couldn’t fault him. He was always polite, friendly and supportive of others.’ The tribute by Lara Stanovic, his VCE Woodwork teacher, conveys Hayden’s maturity and strong sense of self.
Many of Hayden’s school friendships continued into his adult life and our thoughts are particularly with his close friends from his year level.

We are proud that Brunswick Secondary College was Hayden’s school and will remember him with fondness and affection.

Vivienne Tellefson
Principal

Tributes

Hayden was a lovely, respectful young man. He was calm, hardworking and talented, but he also knew how to enjoy his daily tasks in the woodwork room. While others would demand the attention of all who would listen, Hayden would quietly, in his characteristically low tones, deliver joke after joke that only his closest mates, Sam (Anchen) and Angus (Ianni), were privy to. The loud laughter that would follow, always left me genuinely curious about how he could think of so many funny things to say and what they could possibly be. Hayden was a very practical person who liked to do things without much help, but he would always stop to help others. As a designer-maker, he was a purist; he cared about function and realistic time frames and, fortunately, no amount of design rhetoric would convince him otherwise. Unlike many people much older than himself, he seemed to know who he was and what was important to him.

Lara Stanovic

Many of you might not know or realise who Hayden Desira was, he was one of a kind and if you had the pleasure of being called one of his mates, you were truly lucky. No one will ever replace or even come close to the benchmark my mate has set. His face, his laugh, his determination, his generosity and his friendship will never leave our hearts or minds. For the lucky few that knew Hayden, we all have him smiling down on us now and forever.
When I say this I think I speak for a lot of people. This isn’t goodbye, it’s just I’ll see you later champ.
Love from your mate,
Josh Wright

The Funeral Service to celebrate the life of Hayden Desira will be held in the Cordell Chapel, Fawkner Memorial Park, Sydney Rd, Fawkner on WEDNESDAY (Feb. 9, 2011) commencing at 2.30 p.m. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Juvenile Diabetes. Envelopes available at the Service.