



British Obituary Page For Magic

TIM "MAGIC" HUGHES

(an appreciation)

It is with deep regret that we announce the death of Tim "Magic" Hughes who died in Bangkok, Thailand after having suffered a major cerebral Hemorrhage on Thursday 15th January. He underwent two major operations in hospital and later was pronounced dead on Friday 23rd January. Timothy John Patrick Hughes was born at Little Aston Park, Staffordshire, England in 1944. As a small young lad he wore corrective leg irons and had a horrible stutter. The irons worked and he eventually outgrew the stammering. Until his recent death Tim ran daily with hash clubs in Bangkok, and throughout the world and was often heard yelling "On-On", without any difficulty at the various hashing events. Tim was not the slightest bit interested in sciences, and preferred studying art and languages. His keen interest in the guitar and pop music eventually led him to become involved with three pop groups in various locations in Kent, The Klan, Bern Elliot and Bern Elliot and the Fenmen. The band had a hit with a song called Money, which was originally written by the Beatles. Bern Elliot & the Fenmen were the only group to have a U.K. hit single with this song and their version entered the British Top Twenty near the end of 1963. It wasn't a patch on the Beatles' rendition (which had been released at about the same time on their second LP), but it was actually a pretty decent, soulful interpretation. Tim's group played in a sort of tough Merseybeat style (although they weren't from the Mersey region). Tim and the group made several appearances on Ready Steady Go, Five O'clock Club, Easy Beat and Saturday Club shows during the '60's. He toured regularly with the well known Merseyside groups of the day as well as big names like Roy Orbison, the Supremes, the Hollies, Manfred Mann, The Animals, The Who, Spencer Davis (Keep On Running), and many others. Latterly in the 1960's he did a few gigs with Michael Cox and Marty Wilde before finally moving to Spain. Tim worked in promotions for Carreras Rothmans and Castrol, before leaving and moving to Bangkok in 1969. He joined the Anglo-Thai Corporation, the British trading conglomerate, later becoming Managing Director of The Ford Motor Company's automotive operations in Thailand until 1982, when he decided to become an independent consultant. An accomplished big-game fisherman, he successfully competed in the prestigious Hawaiian International Billfish Tournament in the seventies and served on the International Game Fish Association, headquartered in Fort Lauderdale in Florida. He has represented Thailand on the committee since 1975. However Tim MAGIC Hughes will always be remembered around the world for his association with the Hash House Harriers, an organisation that was originally founded in 1938 in a moment of post-prandial inspiration at the Selangor Club Chambers in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, by a group of ex-patriots. Hashing, as it is fondly known has taken Tim on almost 600 runs throughout the world and to Interhash in Kuala Lumpur in 1980, Jakarta in 1982, Sydney in 1984, and Bali in 1988. He was the organiser of Interhash 86 in Pattaya, and around this time he was dubbed with the name of MAGIC, because apparently everything he did in his life was magic. He created the now legendary World Hash

Handbook and the global database for the world-wide clubs to gather, collate and disseminate information on hashing. He also researched, wrote and published many books on the history of hashing including the famous Golden Jubilee book 'On On Hash House Harriers 1938 - 1988'. His business connections brought him into contact with many of the leading companies in Thailand, from whom he often was given sponsorship and assistance to help him promote hashing. His commitment to hashing goes beyond and above the call of duty, and Tim became a legend throughout the hashing world. He will be fondly missed by hashers both old and new everywhere when those immortal words are heard, "On-On!" When Tim found time to relax from his hashing, his other interests included trekking in the Himalayas as well as in Peru, and of course he loved his music. He often used to be invited to the Royal Palace in Bangkok where he would organise 'jam' sessions with the children of the King and Queen. Tim leading them with vocals and of course his guitar. Tim leaves behind a mother and married sister in the United Kingdom, who have stated through the World Wide Web and Internet that Tim will always be "Magic" to them. On a personal note I would like to add that I never had the opportunity of meeting MAGIC, but I feel that I know him so well through the kind words and messages that I am receiving on the Internet. It is so ironic to think that I would have played the records Tim and his band made, when during the 60's I was also in the music industry, as a disc jockey on the pirate radio ship, Radio Caroline. May God bless you Tim. Tim's funeral will be held in Bangkok on Monday 2 February 1988. Compiled by Miles Robert Wilson Tim's brother in law. 28 January 1998

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