

Arizona Biker Leathers 15th Anniversary Party

Arizona Biker Leathers hosted their 15th Anniversary Party and Customer Appreciation Day on Saturday December 9 from noon until 4pm. It was great to see Ann and the rest of her family during the day. She sent along some followup details to share.

AZBL hosts this free event each year in appreciation for the support the biker community has shown the shop over the years. This was a beautiful day for it. Ann estimates that about 700 people visited during the day.

Music was provided by DJ Charley Farley. He and his wife Joanne have supported this event for more than 10 years. Lunch was served up by Chuck, Charles, Lil Charles, and Freddy Four Fingers; all courtesy of AZ Biker Leathers.

There were about a dozen vendors, including Law Tigers, Iron Maiden Boutique, Bee-lineBikes.com, Ron the Seat Maker, Custom Metal Creations, Wolfskin Tattoo, Breyer Law, Kamanawana Shave Ice, Unique Beading, and more. There was apparel, jewelry, and various giftables; plus information from the Patriot Guard Riders, VFW/VFR, and the Christian

Motorcyclists Association.

A bitter-sweet addition to this year's activities was a balloon release in memory of George who passed away back in March 2017. About 3pm all were invited to get a balloon to participate. After a prayer, the family released their balloons, followed by everyone else. Ann sent along, "Special thanks to Tiffany with CMA for the prayer prior to our balloon release. We released 425 balloons in honor of George." The balloons floated up and hovered in a group over the store for a bit; then continued their journey on up into the bright light of the sun's rays. It was a beautiful remembrance.

George Jr stepped in to call the numbers for the raffle drawings, in place of his Pops. Although it had to be an emotional time, he did a good job. Between the AZ Biker Leathers items plus donations from the various vendors, there was quite a collection of goodies to pass out... headgear, bandannas, signs, leather goods of all sorts {of course!}, giftables, jackets, vests, patches, Law Tiger swag, a pedal car, bicycles, a kid's trike, and the grand finale ~ a 50" LED HDMI TV. Merry Christmas indeed!

Ann shared this note, "Thanks to my loved ones George Jr, Amber, Summer, Nick, Dirty Old Man, Kevin and Little Boss Man David. They are amazing. Thank you to everyone for your continued support. We have met so many amazing people in the last 15 years. Special thanks go out to our promoters, Kelly and staff with *Biker Information Guide* and Bruce & Betsy with *AZ Rider Motorcycle News* for the great jobs they do all year keeping you informed and making sure our ads are out there. Thank you also to our ladies doing the raffle ~ Leigh, Crystal, and Sabrina. They did an amazing job."

Arizona Biker Leathers is family owned and operated. It is located at 13833 N. 19th Avenue, that's the NE corner of 19th Ave & Thunderbird, in Phoenix. Look 'em up online at <http://arizonabikerleathers.com/> or www.facebook.com/arizonabikerleathers, or give 'em a call at 602-843-5847.

We're glad we could be there. We wish Ann and the entire Arizona Biker Leathers family all the best in 2018!

Betsy & Bruce

