

is “in the Raymer’s blood” (my grandfather rode his BMW until he was 78 years old). When I was only seven months old, I was sitting in the sidecar with my mom holding me on my dad’s 1972 /5 BMW.

I always loved motorcycles and dreamed of owning my own someday. I never had the money to buy one when I was younger. Of course, there was no other choice for me but a BMW. I went to a four-year college to become a physical education teacher and got a teaching job right out of college at age 24.

During my first year of teaching (2005) was when my Uncle Tommy was diagnosed with cancer. I remembered being in the Adirondack Mountains in New York and my uncle was talking to me about taking the Motorcycle Safety Course. He continued on saying that if I passed the course and got my motorcycle license, he would buy me my first BMW motorcycle. When I got back home to Massachusetts that Sunday, I went online and signed up for the course. I passed with flying colors.

Now my uncle was on a mission to find me a perfect BMW bike. The problem we had was that I am only 5’2”. All you vertically challenged people know it is hard to find lowered BMW bikes. A friend of my uncle was selling his 1987 BMW K75. He bought me the bike and put a lowered shock on it. I also invested in a pair of high heel riding boots. I could almost touch flat footed!

Though my uncle never got to see me

ride the K75, my dad was able to give him a picture of me sitting on it before he passed away. During my uncle’s declining health, many of his close friends rallied together to help him find that perfect bike for me and were always there for him. Since my uncle’s death, his close friends (all have BMW motorcycles) have now become part of our family. My father, brother and I go to various BMW rallies with my uncle’s friends and reminisce about the good times we all had with him.

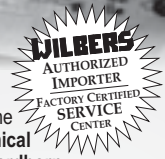
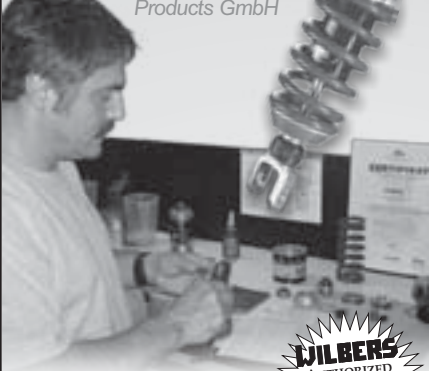
I wish my Uncle Tommy was still here so I could go on motorcycle trips and to rallies with him. I often wonder if he was still alive today, if I would be riding a BMW motorcycle and having the time of my life. He made a dream of mine come true. In the end, I lost my Uncle Tommy, but he passed on the passion of riding to me.

I guess good and bad things happen for a reason.

I bought an F800 ST in July of 2007. My brother’s bike (an inherited bike from Uncle Tommy) broke down in New York (on our way home from the National Rally in Wisconsin) and was towed to Max’s BMW. While they were fixing the bike, I saw the lowered F800ST and fell in love with it. Two weeks later I bought the bike. My father and brother also bought new BMW motorcycles. If you are wondering, I kept the K75. If my brother’s bike didn’t break down, the Raymers probably wouldn’t have bought new bikes. I guess things happen for a reason! ●



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