



National Pufahl-Farricker Spirit Ride June 13, 2010

USA Ultimate has given [“spirit of the game” awards](#) at the Ultimate Club Championships since 2002. The awards are named after Peter “Wheels” Farricker and Kathy Pufahl for the open and women’s divisions. There is an endowment that has been established by alumni Ultimate players in their names in order to fund these awards, and to raise money for cancer and ALS research.

The first ever Pufahl-Farricker Spirit Ride has been scheduled for Sunday, June 13, 2010. There are 15 rides scheduled across the US, with the goals of providing further funding for the endowment for its efforts and to rekindle connections. We would encourage as many former and current Ultimate players to join a local ride if possible, or to consider making a donation. See www.spiritride.org for more information.

Peter "Wheels" Farricker was a person of great spirit — teammate, friend, brother, son, husband and father. He was a gifted athlete, winning the National and World Ultimate Championships and twice was a two-time club champion in golf. Pete was funny, smart, and kind, and attracted people with a welcoming ease. It was his sense of humor and charisma that first engaged us as we got to know him in the Ultimate community. Then his courage, dignity and humility inspired us as he battled and eventually succumbed to ALS. Kathy Pufahl was a loving inspiration to all who knew her. She was a driving force in the early days of women’s Ultimate and the UPA, serving as the second Women’s’ National Director and first UPA Managing Director, and helped foster the spirit of the game we know today. She ran tournaments, wrote and mailed newsletters, and organized the women's college division. On the field, Kathy helped build women's Ultimate and several of its early teams, setting the pace for high-quality and fair play. For all this she was elected to the [Ultimate Hall of Fame](#) in 2005. Kathy built her life, which was unfortunately cut short due to cancer, on Long Island raising a loving family and as an entrepreneur founding a highly successful horticultural business. Both Wheels and Kathy exemplified spirit of the game on and off the field.

The [Farricker Foundation](#), soon to be rechristened the Pufahl Farricker Foundation, is a 501(c)(3) registered organization established and run by Ultimate players. The Board is comprised of Phil Adams, Kevin Cande, Myke Farricker, Steve Gustafson, Bill McAvoy, Steve Mooney, Brian Murphy, and Joe Pufahl, who in the 1970s, 1980s, and 1990s played on national and world championship Ultimate teams including the Rude Boys, Flying Circus, Hostages, New York, DoG, and Seven Sages.

- Nob Rauch