



# FAN OF THE MONTH - TERI RUF

One of ten children born to loving parents John and Dorothy Willen, Teri Ruf was born on January 13th, 1967. She has two beautiful girls, Casey (21) and Ashly (17), driver of the Kwitchinbitchin ME #821.

Teri's family almost lost her in 1998 when she was involved in a massive 98-car pile up that caused severe brain and back injuries, but Teri stayed strong and was determined to recover. Then in 2001, in order to keep her children away from bad influences, Teri and her husband, Keith, sold everything they owned and moved onto a houseboat with hopes

**Hometown:** St. Charles, MO  
**Family:** Keith (husband), Casey and Ashly (daughters)  
**Favorite TV Show:** Law and Order  
**Favorite Foods:** Pizza, Doritos, Chinese and Mint Chocolate Chip ice cream  
**Favorite Music:** Country  
**Favorite Sports:** Soccer, and of course, racing.  
**Favorite boat:** Kwitchabitchin ME #821 driven by daughter, Ashly  
**Favorite Driver:** Ashly Ruf  
**Favorite race site:** Creve Coeur, MO  
**Pets:** Dog (Reba)  
**Hobbies:** boating, gardening, cooking, crafts, and photography

snowing outside. Teri woke up just like every other day, and went to the bathroom. Seconds later, she was found there, having

months following, Teri remained in a coma for 3-1/2 weeks in ICU, and after she was transferred out of intensive care, she had to be fed through IV's. She was not the most cooperative patient, and after several failed attempts to keep the feeding tube in place, they finally put boxing gloves on her hands at night to keep her from pulling the tube out.

Teri's husband was at the hospital with her for four months. Each day he would feed her breakfast, go to work, come back to feed her dinner, shower her and put her to bed. He never missed a day, and her daughter Ashly only missed the times that she had volleyball games and school.

For two months after being released from the hospital, Teri went to brain injury rehab for seven hours a day, five days a week, and during that time she

had two seizures, two ambulance rides to the emergency room, and numerous trips to the doctor's office. The aneurism also left Teri with no eyesight, but after two eye surgeries, she now has 20/40 vision in both eyes. She still needs one more eye surgery to straighten out her left eye.

Their insurance has been exhausted so Teri stays at home, and her sister now cares for her while Keith is at work. She continues to make progress week by week. Recently, Keith bought a used motor home to make Teri more comfortable traveling to the races. Amazingly, this 40 year old woman who had a 10% chance of living on February 14, 2007, still found the strength and willpower to make it to all except one race this season to watch Ashly compete.

Teri and her family would like to give thanks to all the racers, board members and all the fans that supported her throughout the 2007 season. Teri still has a long road in her recovery, but with everyone's support and prayers, Teri will be back!

**Teri will appreciate anything you would like to do for her. She wears a size Large adult T-shirt. Team T-shirts or other souvenirs can be sent to:**  
**Teri Ruf**  
**904 lake Village Dr**  
**St. Charles MO 63301**



of a new beginning. It was a big change for everyone, but Teri made it a beautiful home for the family of four. Two years later they moved into a home on the Mississippi river that was built by Keith's grandfather, and they continue to live there today.

Tragedy struck Teri again on February 14, 2007, when she suffered a brain aneurism. Fortunately, Keith and Ashley were both home that fateful day because it just so happened to be

a seizure. Keith gave her mouth to mouth resuscitation for nearly 35 minutes while waiting for paramedics to arrive, in order to make sure she continued to get oxygen to her brain. Teri was transported to a local hospital and was later transferred to another facility that was better equipped to deal with such a severe head injury. The prognosis was not good, but saying goodbye was not an option for Teri and her family, so the difficult decision was made to perform a delicate brain surgery. In the



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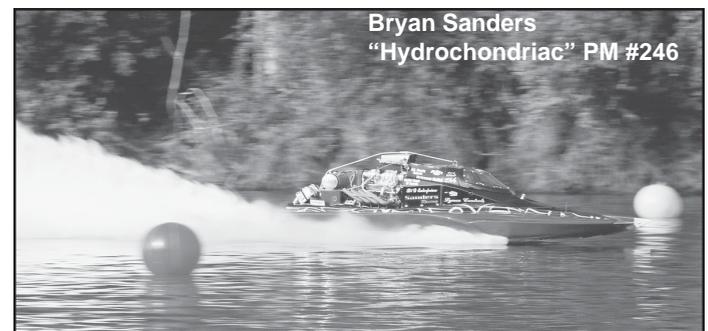
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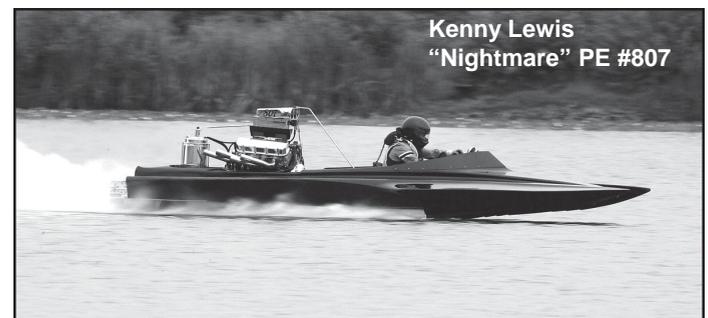
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