Daddy Haine Volleyball Honors a Legend

By Jim Gaddis



Participants gathered before the start of the Daddy Haine 4-Man Volleyball Tournament.

A prayer and dedication remembered Daddy.

When I first met Tom "Daddy" Haine in 1973, I knew I was in the company of greatness. It didn't take long for Daddy to realize that I was just another 6'5" surfer from UC Santa Barbara and NOT a young volleyball stud who might threaten the established "Nooners" action on the Outrigger Canoe Club sand courts.

Daddy thoroughly embarrassed me nearly every time we met, including that first game with Jon Haneberg. I couldn't give Jon a single pass or set. I never claimed to be a volleyballer but managed to play well enough to partner up with desperate OCC players when absolutely no one else could be found.

Daddy was always a gentleman on the court. My OCC hosts soon abandoned me at the court when I was their guest. I couldn't blame Tommy and Bobby Arnott and Haneberg for wanting a decent set once in a while.

Despite hundreds of losses over the years during the Nooners lunch hour, there were some miraculous moments. Though I can count my wins over Daddy in one hand, they will be forever etched in my imagination.

Thanks again to the late "JB" John Beaumont, Donny Mailer, Stan Brown, Dean Nowack and Wayne Kekina for putting me in the winning circle in the 70s and 80s against Daddy.



A week before Daddy left us, I was lucky enough to be in the right place at the right time. Daddy reluctantly asked me to be his partner against Dennis Berg and Tom Selleck. I guess they couldn't wait any longer for Mike Cote to show up.

Daddy had partnered with me years earlier in a loss to Kekina and Chris Crabb. It still ate at him in a humorous way. As thrilled as I was to be Daddy's partner against Dennis and Tom, I was more elated when Jim Cavanah showed up. Actually, Daddy was probably the happier camper. Jim took my spot in the second game. My bad knees were a good excuse to step off the court but the fact is Daddy needed a player, not a pretender.

Daddy did thank me for my effort and oddly enough, we played well together that memorable morning. I have never forgotten that short-lived partnership with Daddy and neither has Cavanah. We both find ourselves ever more thankful each year when the Daddy 4 Man Tournament is held.

The 2005 Daddy 4-Man on September 3 lived up to all the expectations of a wonderful event that honored and respected everything that Tom "Daddy" Haine stood for. Perhaps the most inspirational and moving moment was the pre-tournament blessing remembrances of Daddy.

All of the participants and members of the Haine family held hands and shared both private and familiar memories of what Daddy meant to them and what he was all about. Daddy's son, Marc, urged each contestant to give thanks for their many blessings and to live up to his father's legacy of sportsmanship and passion for the game.

Marc recognized two players as recipients of the Daddy Award given for their commitment and their love of volleyball. Chris Crabb and Eyal Zimet were honored by appreciative applause from their fellow contestants, fans and the entire Haine family.

Daddy's wife, Marilyn "Mom" Haine hugged Chris and Eyal and thanked everyone for honoring her late husband. Mom was at the tournament from start to finish, draped in lei, handing out and accepting warm hugs and good wishes

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The Haine family: Noa and Chris and Paula Crabb Marc, front; Reese, Marilyn take a break between and Kisi, standing.

Sidnee, Kyle and Wayne Kekina watch the tournament.

and cheering on the action.

Daddy's daughter, Kisi, was on hand to help Marc run the tournament and share memories of her amazing father with countless friends. Marc and his oldest son, 15-yearold Reese, took part in the tournament. Father and son played exceptionally well on different teams. Daddy would have been extremely proud.

As passionate and intense as the action was, the Daddy 4-Man combined entertainment and perfect sportsmanship. The players honored Mom Haine's hope for good, clean fun. On the whole, it was an incredibly successful day full of joy, laughter and amazing volleyball action.

Tournament director Stevie Li did an outstanding job ranking the players and assuring fairness and integrity. The tournament was totally legitimate in spreading out the talent and all of the players thanked Stevie for a job well done.

A tasty chili and rice lunch with salad was enjoyed and appreciated by all. Most of the players who were bumped from action earlier in the day stuck around for the championship bracket, including OCC Club President Alan Lau who teamed up with fellow Club member Kirk Christman.

A double elimination format left four teams vying for the Daddy title in the late afternoon. The only undefeated team left was made up of Zimet, Tom Harrer, Jim Hewson, Rick Jenkins and Randy Morris. The 40-something Harrer was playing like a teenager, blocking shot after shot which fired up the crowd.

As if scripted in Hollywood, Zimet's team faced Brian Beckwith's team for the championship. Sideline chat suggested that Zimet and company would thump the team of Beckwith, Marc Haine, Deano Dante and Jim Ashford without much trouble.

Haine tossed his troubled back on the burner and played like an all-star. With the help of six service errors and shoddy passing by his opponents, Haine caught fire with three service aces and a few spectacular digs. The chatter of a blowout was soon dismissed. In fact, Team Beckwith never looked back after taking an early commanding lead. They went on to defeat Team Zimet 25-16 to take the 2005 Daddy 4-Man. It was the perfect finish to a perfect day and a wonderful event.

The entire Haine family, Mom, Kisi, Reese, Noa and Marc extend their thanks and appreciation to everyone. A special mahalo goes to Stevie Li who directed and produced the tournament.

Mom Haine loved all the beautiful fragrant lei and the incredible show of support. She wishes to extend her personal thanks again for everyone's love and aloha. "Everyone was so gracious. Thank you all so much for making this a special day," she said.

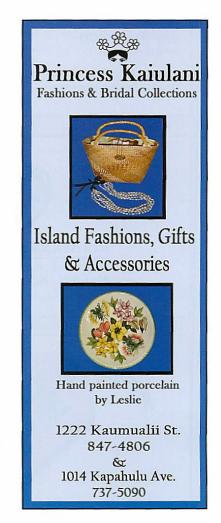
The lei were taken out to Daddy's final resting place in the magnificent warm waters beyond the reef in front of the Club. The tournament proved to be a perfect memorial for one of the Outrigger Canoe Club's all-time prized members.

Mahalo Daddy.

The winning team included Deano Dante, Marilyn Haine, Marc Haine, Reese Haine, Noa Haine, Brian Beckwith, Kisi Haine, and Jim Ashford.



Marilyn Haine presented Daddy Awards to Eyal Zimet and Chris Crabb.



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