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## Private Services for Paul Stanley, Warranty Equipment Mechanic, Racing Fan

By NED RACINE, Editor

(July 29, 2008) Long-time employee Paul Stanley died on July 21 after a short battle with cancer. He was 65.

Stanley, a warranty equipment mechanic in the Central Warehouse's Quality Receiving Unit, retired July 12 when he learned the extent of his illness.

Stanley joined the Southern California Rapid Transit District, Metro's predecessor agency, in December 1980. Dieter Hemsing, Director of Inventory Management, explained that Stanley, a warranty equipment mechanic since 1989, was involved in the initial testing and evaluation of both methanol and CNG power-plant technologies, as well as working in the emissions lab.



Paul Stanley stands beside his last race car, the appropriately named Stanley Machine, at Utah's Bonneville Salt Flats in 2005. This type of car is called a "streamline."

Co-worker Louie Knutson shared Stanley's love of building cars and dry lake racing. According to Knutson, Stanley's favorite venues were Utah's Bonneville Salt Flats and El Mirage Dry Lake in San Bernardino.

In fact, Stanley was a former president of the Southern California Timing Association, a volunteer group that supports land speed racing.

"We [would] collect old junk cars and build them up and see how fast they go," said Knutson, also a warranty equipment mechanic, who worked with Stanley for almost 30 years. "I know he'd been doing it all his life, either drag [racing] or racing on the El Mirage Dry Lake."

"He was a very wholesome guy," Knutson remembers. "If I needed something, he was the first one there."

Hemsing described Stanley as being well respected by his peers and

management alike. Hemsing appreciated Stanley's dedication and reliability.

Stanley is survived by his sister Gail Stanley, brother Gene and niece Galeen Row.

Services will be private. His ashes will be committed to Utah's Bonneville Salt Flats.

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