

On September 8<sup>th</sup>, a group of 15 old friends gathered near Grand Bend, ON. to enjoy a round of golf and catch up while remembering one of their old buddies that passed away 13 years ago. In May of 2005 Pete MacMaster died suddenly from a heart attack at the age of 35, leaving behind a wife and 3 young children. The MacMaster family lived in Simcoe and had owned a GM dealership in Simcoe and 2 others in London and Orangeville at that time. “It was a very difficult time for our family, losing your child so young is life changing, for everyone” commented Ken MacMaster, Pete’s dad. “A day never goes by that we don’t think about Pete and wonder how life would be different if he was still with us today”.

At the MacMaster home near Grand Bend they have created an area on their property called “Pete’s Place”. It’s full of good memories and a place of gathering for friends and family. Below is a photo of the group at “Pete’s Place”



As this group of friends started to arrive, one flying in from Calgary and another traveling in from Ottawa and all over Ontario it didn’t take long for the old time jokes and nudging to start. Many of these guys grew

up in Norfolk County and after school had moved away for work. That evening after dinner the guys handed the MacMaster family a monetary donation that the family could decide on a worthy cause in memory of Pete. The family decided to match the donation and asked that the monies be given to a local cause in Norfolk County to assist kids in sports as this is where Pete and many of the guys around that table that night enjoyed their youth sports.

A call was made to Ryan Vandebussche a local retired NHL hockey player that created 'STIX N PIX' a not for profit organization that ensures that under privileged kids have the opportunity to play either hockey or play a musical instrument right here in Norfolk County. On Thursday September 13<sup>th</sup> two of the friends around that table that night met with Ryan and presented him with a cheque for \$3000.00 for his initiative of "STIX N PIX".



Presenting a \$3000.00 cheque to Ryan Vandebussche is Kelly Fulsom and Mark Stephen of Norfolk County.