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## Cover Story: Hog Heaven

To all our Brother and Sisters of the Wind. This idea started out by a untimely tragedy. A very close friend of ours passed away in a freak motorcycle accident in 2003. Dykes and I went to a traditional biker funeral. I was born and raised around motorcycles and motorcycle clubs. Dykes (for all of you giving us shit for his name don't worry about it were used to it.) Dykes was really quiet on the way home and the mood was very somber as you can imagine. When we arrived home he looked at me and said you know I can do something better for bikers and they're final farewell. From that day on we started kicking around the idea of the motorcycle hearse and how to make it happen. We decided to make a bad situation and turn it around into something good. We decided to do it as a Tribute for Dave and to all Fallen Bikers. The first thing we did was to purchase a 3-wheeler frame. We do not have a lot of money, so we did what we could with what we had. Tools had to be made. We wanted to keep it the "Old School" look, and we love choppers so put a springer front end on her. Then threw the grapevine we found a man his name was Tom LaPlante that had a 76 shovelhead sitting in his garage collecting dust. Threw lots of sweet talk, some cold hard cash and telling him what we were doing, he agreed to sell us the 76 shovel. Which was really hard because that was his baby, and he had gotten into a motorcycle accident with it and lost his leg. After we purchased the bike we found out the motor was shot and had to be rebuilt. So we had a choice either to rebuild the shovel or go with a different motor. We loved the shovel so we decided to take it to a longtime family friend T-Bear from T-Bear Customs. About 2 weeks later he got her purring like the pussy cat she was. Dykes wanted the back of the bike to resemble a coffin, so threw lots of Fabrication, time and aggravation, she looks like she does. Then the Hearse was born, The hearse was the hardest to do because of all the detail that was put into it. Then doing the inside deciding what should look like what and of course making it so the coffin would fit in it without tipping over. We decided to go with a pleated look for the roof boy was that a bitch. The eagles were significant because the eagle was Dave's favorite, they look like they are flying in the wind and the claws look like they are picking the hearse up to carry you home. We wanted the hearse to look "Old School" to but with a bit of modern to it with the chrome wheels. It took 3 long years to finish this project to get it the way we wanted it to look and everything functionable. During those 3 years we sacrafised a lot, including time, money and frustration. Lots of night burning that midnight oil. Sometimes we wanted to give up, and sometimes we wanted to strangle each other (both having the same idea but different ideas on how she should look) then they're were other times when we just looked at each other wondering if we were just insane. In the end we knew we had to get threw it and finish what we started. Not only for Dave but for ourselves and all of our Brothers and

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