

Vale: Michael JONSON

29 Nov 1946 – 14 May 2005



The Touch Community lost a deeply loved friend and Touch Legend in May this year (2005) when Michael Jonson passed away after his battle with Cancer.

Michael was charismatic, loveable, much loved and respected by all lives he touched. He was passionate about his Touch, he loved to laugh, loved his horses and to have a bet, loved a beer and good wine. The renowned popular chemist from Maroubra first started playing Touch with South Sydney and then later played for Canterbury.

As busy as Michael was he always found the time to travel to Port Macquarie for the NSW State Cup and he took part in the inaugural Vawdon Cup in 1977. He was an experienced Australian representative, being capped eleven times for Australia in Test matches and World Cup events. He also took part in the 1987 Canadian and USA Tour to contest the Kanga Cup.

He played in the 1988 First World Cup on the Gold Coast, 1991 World Cup in Auckland as well as the 2000 tour of Hong Kong and the 2002 Masters Tour of South Africa and the United Kingdom to play in the European Championships.

Michael represented NSW on ten occasions between 1983 and 2002. He played in the NSW Mens 35 years division in 1983 and 1985, Mens 40 years from 1986 to 1991, the Mens 45 years in 1994 and 1995 before playing in the inaugural NSW Mens 50 years team in 2002.

He also represented NSW City in Mens 40 years in 1990 and Mens 35 years in 1993 and was player/coach in 1994. He continued on to play for the City Mens 45 years in 1995. At the NTL he was Sydney Mets and Sydney Rebels representative in the Mens 45 year and Mens 50 year divisions. In the early days he represented Region 7 which at that time included Easts, Cronulla and South Sydney.

His lightning speed off the mark made him an ideal dummy half runner and when he took off from that position a try generally ensured for his team. He terrorised opponents and none more than his Queensland counterparts.

The New South Wales Touch Associations' Michael Jonson Trophy is named after one of the great Australian and NSW age division players. The trophy is awarded to the master's Player of the Final in the Sydney Championships.

Sadly Michael's passing leaves his children, Christopher, Harley, Bianca and Andrew, his grandchildren, Mia, Allegra, Alijah and Mikaylah and loving family, relatives, and many friends without his laughter and his humour and friendship. He is sorely missed.

