

AMERICAN IRON LIBRARY BY ADAM WILLIAMS

HAIL TO THE CHIEF

Gone, but not forgotten



ONLY A SELECT HANDFUL OF POP CULTURE ICONS merit consideration as certified legends, but Indian Larry Desmedt was one of the chosen few. With his untimely passing over two years ago, the motorcycling community lost a man of artistry and creativity, and the world bid farewell to a brilliant free spirit. Although replacing Larry is an impossibility,

Timothy White's new book, *Indian Larry* (\$49.95), brings cycling's Renaissance man back before our eyes with grace and dignity.

With comments from White, builders Paul Cox and Billy Lane, and artist Matthew Barney, the book is lavishly illustrated with photos of Larry's creations and candid shots of the man himself in a variety of moods.

Whether gazing pensively skyward, joking with friends, or staring intently into the photographer's lens, Indian Larry's wit, wisdom, and warmth are on full display in every photo. But it is Larry's smiling countenance that is most prevalent — and most striking; that mischievous grin embodied his attitude toward work, play, friends, and life.

For custom cycle aficionados, six of Larry's machines are given generous camera time, with one grander than the next. From the minimalism of

Grease Monkey to Chain of Mystery's heavy links, Larry's remarkable ingenuity pours forth from these pages. Each photo is a testament to the care and eye for detail that Larry incorporated into his craft, as well as to White's skills in capturing his friend in various settings.

Much has been said and written about Indian Larry, yet, the old adage "a picture is worth a thousand words" certainly applies to White's photographic tribute. The book not only leaves us with fond pictorial memories of Larry, but proceeds will benefit City Harvest, a nonprofit group working toward ending hunger in the New York City area. Because Indian Larry gave so much of himself in life, it's reassuring to know that Indian Larry continues to give. AIM



SOURCES

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