



Ride for David Ryan

It's not an ordinary Saturday ride for hundreds of cyclists. Prepping their bikes -- ready to take an emotional 29-mile trek along the Mohawk River. All to honor David Ryan, who would have turned 33 yesterday.

Walter Cicha said, "David was an exceptional person on many levels."

Ryan was killed riding this same route back in June -- when 18-year-old Joshua Paniccia allegedly struck him with his car on Riverview Road in Clifton Park. Close pal Walter Cicha says today's ride is about honoring David and reminding people that bikes share the road too.

Cicha said, "Most of these people realize it could have been any one of us and everybody woke up to say we gotta make a statement, we have to be careful on the roads."

The trek took cyclists on a route from the GE Global Research Plant in Niskayuna -- where he worked -- across the Mohawk River and up through Clifton Park.

It is here on Riverview Road where Ryan was killed -- a memorial still stands in his honor as cyclists pass by and remember.

Bob Preville said, "He'd love it, he was an avid rider, so naturally he loved getting out any chance he could and he'd be part of it -- he is part of it."

For Walter Cicha he says he's not angry with anyone. He just wants people to remember Ryan as someone who loved life.

Cicha said, "He's been with me the whole three months -- I've been thinking exactly what he'd like to see because he always looked at the positive side of life -- he never complained about anything."

© 2004 Clear Channel Communications