

The Story of the Jesse King Memorial Paddle Race

“Friends Remembering Jesse, a U.S. Coastguard Honor Guard”

Honoring their good friend and ocean mate, friends of Jesse King held the inaugural Jesse King Memorial Paddle Race on October 31, 2009, and continues yearly. The six-mile course from Cayucos Pier to Coleman Beach in Morro Bay is a fundraiser for the Junior Lifeguard programs Jesse supported.

This event is held each year in celebration of the life Jesse squeezed into his short 28 years and seeks to educate the public on ocean safety while providing funding for the Junior Guard programs. There are 4 countywide Junior Guard programs that work with youth, ages 9 to 17, teaching ocean consciousness, water safety, lifesaving skills and confidence in the open ocean.

Jesse King, a former U.S. Coast Guard Honor Guard and Machinery Technician 3rd class, passed away in a free diving accident off the coast of Cambria on July 1, 2009. Jesse will be remembered for his generosity, creativity and love of the ocean.

