Funeral for Nicholas is too pricy for family

By NADJA HAINKE

THE Middis family will be forced to use some of their superannuation accounts to pay for the funeral of eight-year-old Nicholas.

Mrs Middis at Royal Darwin Hospital. Her son Daniel, 11, and ex-husband Glenn are with the midwife while she is recovering.

Staff at the Larrakeyah Barracks in Darwin will stand at the gates with donation buckets from 6.45am today.

They are hoping the defence personnel and civilians will dig deep as they arrive at work.

Fundraiser Cathy MacDonald, 48, who has worked with Mr Middis at the barracks for the past four years as security staff, said the tragedy had touched many people.

“We’re all devastated and we all want to do as much as we can to help Glenn and the family,” she said.

It’s just a tragic situation. Everyone is quite shocked.”

Darwin band Sex in the Desert and solo blues and roots artist Dean Carroll will hold a free concert at Dolly O’Reilly’s Irish pub in Leanyer tonight.

A gold coin donation will be expected at the doors and bucket-loads of promotional goods, including cakes and fine alcohol, will be raffled off.

Band member and patient care assistant Mr Fitzgerald, 50, worked with Mrs Middis at Royal Darwin Hospital.

He said the tragedy had shocked and devastated him.

“What happened to them is an absolute tragedy,” he said.

“It could have been me, it could have been you, it could have been anyone.”

Dolly O’Reilly’s assistant manager Carmel Kennedy said the pub wanted to raise as much money as possible to support the family.

Nicholas died when cardboard boxes outside his family home were set alight 12 days ago.

The fire spread to the small unit in Baroona St within minutes.

Donations can also be made to the following accounts: NAB BSB: 082 968. Account: 105972. Reference: Debbie and Daniel Middis Fund.

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