

**Quick weather**

**DARWIN**  
Sunny with moderate east to southeast winds  
**MAX 30**

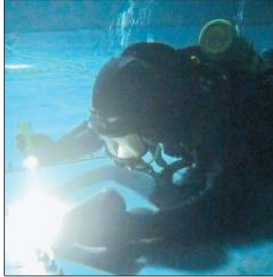
**ALICE SPRINGS**  
Partly cloudy  
**MAX 22**

FULL WEATHER REPORT: PAGE 39

**OUT THE BACK**

A TEAM of welding scuba divers descended on the remote community of Beswick to take a dip in the town's water tank.

FULL STORY: PAGE 11



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# Farewell Geoff, a true family man

## Bashed by gang after party

A MAN was assaulted when a Darwin community party finished in a street brawl in the early hours yesterday.

He was attacked after approaching five young men and asking them to move on.

The 43-year-old man was punched and kicked to the ground — and then hit over the head with a glass bottle.

He ran to a house to seek refuge. The gang followed him but couldn't get into the home.

The youths then caused damage to a scooter parked at the house.

They shouted threats before returning to the man's Toyota Kluger and vandalising it.

The trouble happened in Aralia St, Nightcliff about 2.30am.

The youths were described as being of African appearance and about 16-17 years old.

Police urged anyone who can help with their investigation to call 131 444 or Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.



Geoff Miller, centre, with wife Gayle and, on the right, daughter Amanda with her new husband Damien Heath. At left are Mark and Kathryn Heath

**By DAVID WOOD**

WELL-respected Darwin businessman Geoff Miller will be remembered by his wife as a great family man who loved his boats, motorbikes and other toys.

His wife Gayle said the talented engineer and business owner was a great family man.

"He has always been there for his kids. He is sadly missed," she said. "He took pride in everything he did."

"He had a brilliant mind. He was very technically minded, he was highly regarded in a specialist field by his peers.

"He was fun-loving and loved to party and entertain his friends. He loved to go out with the boys."

Mr Miller, 57, died in a motorbike crash on Sunday in Darwin.

He ran his own company, Territory Asset Management Services, with his son Ryan, which conducted road data collection and operated Culway systems for the NT Government. He also had similar contract work in Western

**“ He has always been there for his kids. He took pride in everything he did. He had a brilliant mind. He was fun loving and loved to party and entertain his friends**

**— Geoff's wife Gayle**

Australia and was a Fellow of the Institution of Engineers.

Mr Miller was born in Kapunda in South Australia but travelled Australia with his family as a child, and also travelled to Papua New Guinea. He went to high school in Adelaide.

In his early years he worked on the West Australian railway as a pegger and came to Darwin in the early 1970s and lived through Cyclone Tracy.

Mr Miller worked for the Commonwealth Government as a draftsman designing bridges and roads before becoming a project supervisor.

He moved to Indonesia in 1990 and was a consultant for the rehabilitation of the Japanese-built Ampera bridge in Palembang in South Sumatra.

He then wrote a road maintenance manual for the government and was fluent in Bahasa Indonesian. But he returned to Australia after five years for family reasons.

Mr Miller was a talented yachtsman, loved renovating FJ Holdens and was a sponsor of the Casuarina Cougars Rugby Union club.

He also liked to travel, riding motorbikes and in his new Nissan 370Z sports car.

He leaves behind Gayle, daughters Belinda Heikkinen and Amanda Heath, son Ryan Miller and five grandchildren.

His funeral will be held on Saturday.

## Win cash at plaza party

TERRITORIANS will have the chance to win \$16,000 at the Darwin City Plaza 10th anniversary celebration on Saturday.

The plaza — in the mall between Smith and Cavenagh streets — was first developed in 1940 as a social centre for defence personnel. The birthday celebration will be held at the plaza from 9am.

**TONIGHT**

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