

Getting Crazy at Crazy Bob's Bair Gutsman

Jodi Martin was running Crazy Bob's Bair Gutsman this year in honor and in memory of her dad, who had battled cancer for 10 years and had finally lost that battle. In 1999 her father lost the fight, leaving a hole in the hearts of his children, who now gathered to run the Gutsman, thinking about their Dad who had been at the finish line the year previous, taking pictures, sharing in the glory of their accomplishment.

This year the whole Martin family was there, a kind of family reunion, a place to renew themselves in a physical act so intimate that only those who have lost someone they deeply loved could begin to appreciate; someone you loved so much that only in the loss you came to understand how much a loved one truly meant to you - only then and then it was too late to tell the one you lost how much you cared.

Martial Thirsk lost his son, Jason, a member of a highly successful rock band. After the tragic accident occurred, Martial had gathered with friends and family at the local ball park and memorialized his son, remembering his accomplishments as a little league baseball phenom, a great son, and a loved one now gone.

This year Martial Thirsk again came to Crazy Bob's Bair Gutsman, wearing the special t-shirt that memorialized his boy. He traveled from Southern California, where he lives near the beach, bringing with him a host of friends who also loved Jason, some of whom, like Martial, missed the five-hour deadline to the top but still, regardless, trudged on, determined to finish if it took time and all eternity, as a testament of their love for a wonderful boy-man now gone, and their love of each other.

Martial finished in five-and-a-half hours; others in his group finished in six-and-a-half hours. The race director was gone, knowing Martial was still on the mountain, knowing exactly what he was going through, but also knowing that of the 40 some races he puts on each year, that this one was in memory of his brother, Crazy Bob. He knew that the five-hour drop-dead deadline was part of what Crazy Bob himself was all about and those who understood it would know and those that did not would never, not once, appreciate the underlying message: this one was about his little brother, it was about the times he walked aimlessly around the park, running and walking, talking to himself, unable to speak to anyone since that night his brother had died.

As the race director pulled the digital clock 10 minutes to the noon deadline, making sure to keep the official timer and the official clock at the finish line but removing the big clock, the spectators still waiting for their friends to finish yelled at him.

"What's the matter? Can't you wait? Do you have a tee-time at the golf course or something?"

No, he said, I'm not a golfer. Golf is a game for the Living Dead. This is the Gutsman. The rules are plainly stated in all the advertisements and in the calendar listings: "Five hour deadline to the top and if you don't make it by then you're probably dead."

Indeed. You're probably dead. Martial Thirsk would understand that sentiment as he fought his way up Death Row to break out of the smog of the valley; there's nothing quite like the hard reality of running the Gutsman in more than five hours and being greeted by the wind, the mountain, a few leftover watermelons and the sound of the small creek gurgling its empty tune.

There's nothing like Crazy Bob's Bair Gutsman.

With its start right on time each year at 7 a.m.; with its no-nonsense you're on your own and don't show up if you can't take it approach to mountain running; with its special brand of people who ask no quarter, give no quarter, and take it like they find it: it's a five hour deadline thank you very much.

Josh Kelly, the winner of the race, didn't have to concern himself with a five-hour deadline. He won in 1:58:11 and led from the start after having come down from Brigham City and scouting the course along with his coach, Russ Garn, who finished fifth himself, in 2:02:57.

"I'm good at doing the uphill," Kelly said, stating the obvious. "My brother is faster than me on the flats. But I'm good on the uphill portions."

Todd Flitton, the 37-year-old bridesmaid, was just over a minute behind the Box Elder High School hotshot. Then came Travis Evans, also 17 years old, in 2:01:11. Chris Reveley was fourth in 2:01:41; then came the coach. Russ Garn.

Of the top five women, Anna Larson, 28-years-old, won in 2:19:24. She is a member of the famed Wasatch Waddlers, Arne Hultquist, who finished 12th overall, is president emeritus. Ms. Larson was followed by another Wasatch Waddler, Karen Minchow, 38, 2:21:08. Then came Marcy Felt, 28, 2:29:28; Kimberly Eddy, 34, 2:33:38;; and Lara Bryson, 29, 2:35:13.

Some 245 runners finished the event, which starts at a secret location and ends on top of the world.

Crazy Bob's Bair Gutsman

11 to 13 miles

take your pick

Josh Kelly/17/1:58:11
Todd Flitton/37/1:59:23
Travis Evans/17/2:01:11
Chris Reveley/48/2:01:41
Russ Garn/42/2:02:57
Jeff Olsen/36/2:05:47
Jeffery LaMora/26/2:06:13
Kevin Norton/33/2:09:17
Luke Mercier/22/2:09:24
Patrick Clifford/31/2:09:40
Trevor Burnett/24/2:10:27
Arne Hultquist/42/2:16:34
Shane Martin/33/2:127:15
Tracy Conti/34/2:17:34
Scott Barney/33/2:17:54
Dan Kearns/42/2:17:56
David Knutson/51/2:18:14
Anna Larson/28/2:19:24
John Hultquist/40/2:20:10
Lance Heaton/29/2:20:42
Dan Wilcock/47/2:20:56
Karen Minchow/38/2:21:08
Kim Lundgreen/42/2:22:42
Spencer Cooper/18/2:25:27
Bill Tingey/37/2:25:50
Greg Hansen/50/2:26:52
Troy Lybbert/32/2:26:54
Ryan Hammerschmidt/25/2:26:55
Kerry Brock/39/2:28:44
Troy Marsh/36/2:28:47
Bart Murray/40/2:29:10
Marcy Felt/28/2:29:28
Devin Healy/21/2:30:34

Mike McBride/25/2:31:34
Terry Foust/37/2:31:38
Steve Adams/38/2:32:14
Brett Bass/35/2:32:42
John Steuart/51/2:32:47
John Christensen/49/2:32:53
Nate Page/17/2:32:54
Don Zanelli/46/2:33:36
Kimberly Eddy/34/2:33:38
Nate Kofford/21/2:34:26
Ran Jones/37/2:34:40
Nick Ridd/23/2:34:45
Berkley Pack/23/2:34:51
Mark J. Robinson/26/2:35:04
Lara Bryson/29/2:35:13
Ron Asay/52/2:35:16
Glen Martin/35/2:35:41
K.C. Logan/38/2:36:12
David Toone/43/2:36:12:45
Sandy Logan/35/2:36:46
Mark Glasgow/33/2:36:48
Brian Law/41/2:36:56
Ted Messer/42/2:37:02
Ben Romney/21/2:37:55
Mike Burch/35/2:38:21
Curt Eddy/39/2:38:38
Loren Grover/22/2:38:39
Eric Jensen/25/2:38:40
Dave Healy/54/2:39:01
Mike Armstrong/30/2:39:23
Dev Miller/30/2:39:23:44
Richard Emlet/46/2:39:33
Robert Robins/18/2:40:20
Adam Wahlstrom/17/2:41:36
Carl Blair/48/2:41:54
JaQuoy Prows/26/2:42:14
Steve Parton/43/2:42:50
Trent Lund/28/2:43:42
Scott Stewart/47/2:43:50
Shane Messerly/28/2:43:55
John Lindblom/43/2:43:58
Brian Deeter/34/2:44:09
Steve Hart/17/2:45:07
Nathan Steele/17/2:45:07:60
Erica Bauer/36/2:45:36

Ken Bauer/36/2:45:37
Cole Jones/26/2:47:14
David Howell/39/2:49:14
Julie Nelson/39/2:49:34
Susan Taylor/36/2:49:42
Greg Lawson/58/2:51:36
Ryan Healy/22/2:51:42
Brandon Knudson/23/2:51:42:38
Bryan Odekirk/49/2:52:05
Scott Steiner/37/2:52:17
Alan Beazer/42/2:52:59
Andrew Wittwer/29/2:53:25
Randy Jones/41/2:53:30
Jaci Cummings/31/2:53:31
Mikle South/30/2:53:35
Jason George/21/2:54:16
Bryan Wilde/22/2:54:17
tag #5851/no name/2:54:43
Andy Day/18/2:55:01
Andy Wahlstrom/21/2:55:06
David Delisi/35/2:55:34
Spencer Bird/22/2:56:32
Boyd Hawkins/42/2:56:57
LaMont Hutchins/40/2:58:34
Larry Woolsey/56/2:58:43
Trent Simonsen/14/2:59:19
Jan Simonsen/37/2:59:20
Katheryn Ricks/25/2:59:46
Leslie Bucher/46/2:59:46:73
Nylin Johnson/41/3:00:35
Jeff Bickel/32/3:00:50
Mark Pugmire/42/3:01:33
Holly Rogers/37/3:01:45
Shane Cordingley/42/3:01:47
David Martin/43/3:02:19
Scott Truman/26/3:02:40
Kenny Lawson/34/3:03:18
Heidi Taggart/16/3:03:25
Emily Taggart/19/3:03:25:84
Scott Burton/37/3:04:49
Brad Kingston/32/3:05:24
Steve Johnson/43/3:05:53
Lynn Green/49/3:06:51
Jen McCall/29/3:07:53
Lora Butterfield/33/3:08:40

Betty Yamashita/47/3:08:41
Deana Padelski/33/3:08:41:95
Joan Bennet/40/3:09:14
Jim Ridd/47/3:09:15
Barbara Day/41/3:09:25
Greg Day/43/3:09:26
Kris Liljenquist/46/3:10:00
Krista Stapp/19/3:10:18
Susanne Armstrong/19/3:10:18:83
Lee Moss/42/3:10:39
Buddy Scott/26/3:11:03
Jodi Martin/41/3:11:29
Russ George/48/3:12:21
Debra Gibbons/30/3:13:07
Kara Olson/19/3:13:09
tag #5971/3:13:11
Mark Nichols/30/3:13:54
Augie Anderson/29/3:15:43
Julie Harris/39/3:16:29
Jeffery DeGraw/38/3:16:51
Kimberly Hardy/26/3:17:22
Emily Nielsen/19/3:17:25
Steve Chamberlin/38/3:17:35
Marianne Iverson/21/3:18:53
Karin McKinnon/45/3:20:21
Perry Trujillo/45/3:21:10
Michael Belnap/47/3:21:43
Diane Belnap/45/3:21:44
Alex Stromberg/13/3:22:30
John Stromberg/37/3:22:52
Leanne Wood/36/3:23:43
Lynette Harris/38/3:23:43:80
Linda Stapp/44/3:24:21
Sara Robinette/39/3:24:22
Emily Brough/36/3:25:06
Martha Thompson/28/3:25:07
Jennifer Hart/32/3:25:21
Dave Malm/51/3:26:37
Liz Burkholtz/38/3:27:26
Bryce Mann/14/3:29:00
Alan Robinson/49/3:29:14
Nicole Iverson/16/3:29:27
John Yzurdiaga/59/3:29:38
Iris Tolley/58/3:30:59
Jeremy Hartvigsen/15/3:31:43

Rebecca Stout/28/3:32:21
Kent Butterfield/52/3:32:28
Seth Brinkerhoff/23/3:32:50
Trish Thorpe/31/3:33:17
Emily Whatcott/26/3:33:18
Howard Burkholtz/39/3:33:55
Chuck Singleton/63/3:34:30
Chris Woolsey/51/3:34:47
Diane Langston/36/3:36:46
Steven Christensen/35/3:36:49
Dan Johnson/43/3:37:58
Ross Mann/45/3:38:50
Aaron Hartvigsen/18/3:38:54
Douglas Emerick/61/3:40:26
Susan Ashley/50/3:40:35
Rod Logan/26/3:41:10
Gregory LaRue/38/3:41:26
Elizabeth LaMora/26/3:41:29
Renee Shafter/31/3:41:32
William Sterling/37/3:42:06
Steven Simmons/33/3:43:44
Jane Jensen/46/3:45:04
tag #4989/3:45:06
Lane Proctor/50/3:47:20
Lowell Taylor/69/3:47:27
Jesse Bryson/18/3:47:51
Holly Cobabe/45/3:48:22
John Yarman/50/3:48:23
Edna Sanchez/30/3:48:26
Tim Sanchez/34/3:48:27
Richard Armstrong/34/3:49:29
Gina Zwahlin/32/3:49:38
Anne Hewlett/35/3:49:39
Susie Phillips/29/3:50:03
Hazel Riley/42/3:50:28
Tyler Burnett/21/3:50:57
Laura Clark/55/3:51:07
Helen Peay/53/3:51:07:50
Tevor Bledsoe/15/3:52:58
Elaine Wilson/46/3:53:30
Carol Holt/36/3:56:26
Kristen Piteck/41/3:56:50
Malinda Ferrante/35/3:57:08
Bryant Johnson/13/3:57:42
Tracey Scadden/40/3:59:52

Debbie Hunt/37/4:00:35
Andy Garcia/42/4:02:57
Rick Newton/33/4:04:45
Sharon Yamato/51/4:05:31
Crystal Scott/19/4:06:20
Brent Scott/49/4:06:21
Jordan Bledsoe/13/4:09:46
Shauna Shaw/37/4:10:05
Richard Shaw/44/4:10:07
Kelli Bennett/32/4:10:33
Kristin South/29/4:11:01
Dennis Bledsoe/41/4:13:03
Wesley Bledsoe/10/4:13:09
Michelle Sander/30/4:27:54
Dawn Hansmann/38/4:28:31
Shannon Piteck-Wixom/21/4:28:59
Shana Robbins/30/4:28:59:80
Jannette Newton/32/4:31:43
Joan Nelson/37/4:32:44
Ron Nelson/38/4:32:46
Michael Lewis/34/4:35:26
Lori Johnson/41/4:40:57
Robert Brown/58/4:40:57:57
Russell Peterson/65/4:42:31
Sherry Iverson/26/4:43:52
Chad Iverson/27/4:43:53
Myrna Singleton/58/4:48:37
Joy Beal/47/4:48:44
Gary Iverson/56/4:49:22

Did Not Start

Lara Bryson

Paul Diegel

Brad Iverson

Kathy Iverson

Eric Jensen the Elder/47/

Art Myshrall

Beth Paxton

Bob Paxton

Lisa Paxton

Steve Shaw

Charleen Summerill

Joyce Wiley

Did Not Finish

Shawn Kelley

Doug Stewart
Fred Noftel
Dallas Monsen
Curt Kremer