

# KEEPING IT UP: *My Crash*

I'm sure you must have heard about my crash a few months ago on the N2 South? Well, I walked away from it with NO injuries.

I was on my way back from a Biker Funeral heading down the N2 South from Durban travelling in the right-hand lane at about 140km/h when a Hyundai delivery van, travelling in the middle lane, suddenly changed lanes into my lane with me busy passing him. I found myself in his "death-zone" or right at his rear-wheel and saw that he was going to push me into the barrier which will stop the bike but send me flying into oncoming traffic. Instincts and skill kicked in and I decided to pull back into the lane and hit the brakes but it wasn't enough ... I was going to hit the van from behind and decided to put the bike down and slide off it so the bike could continue on its collision course with the van ... and it did hit the van.

It is not the speed that kills you, it's the sudden stop when you hit something that does...

At that point I was probably doing about 40-60km/h when I hit the road surface ... HARD on my back and my head, which knocked me out for 15-20 minutes, I skid for a few metres and rolled onto my stomach and face and came to stop.

If it wasn't for God's Grace, my gear and training I would NOT have been writing this article.

## My Gear

I had an AXO leather jacket on, my leather waste-coat was ripped off me, Axo leather gloves, XPD ankle-high boots and X Kulcha biker jeans. My helmet, a Shark RSX (now on display at Gear Up), took most of the impact on the back, (crushed), gloves and jacket were scratched and the pants took most its impact on the right knee. Thank goodness to the padding in the knee pockets otherwise my knee caps would've been smashed, the denim part got ripped open but the Ballistic Nylon did its job perfectly.

I live in Kulcha jeans, it is super comfortable, stylish and the padding is a must unlike other makes that only offer protection against abrasion but none against impact.

As for the bike, I'm sad to say, was a write-off. I loved the Buell, it started to grow on me.

Looking at these pics, what goes through your mind? ... **WAKE UP and GEAR UP!!**

*Hein Jonker*

