

# Parents speak out on son's death



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Brandon Rabold

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JUPITER FARMS, FL -- In a crowded ranch style home on a rainy night in Jupiter Farms friends and loved ones came to remember the handsome young man, a local motocross star, who was born to race.

"My kid's a fighter, if you saw him race, he's beat them all," says Brandon Rabold's mother.

But in the span of a year, the same hunger for speed that put his victories in the sports pages led to a terrible shoulder injury. The injury led to an addiction, which led to a conviction on conspiracy to distribute OxyContin.

"Whether or not they admit it, they shafted him. They ended his life," said Brandon Rabold's parents.

Brandon's father said a local doctor, now in prison, took advantage of Brandon's addiction to the painkiller OxyContin and made him an offer.

"When Brandon was a hooked, he'd say go get me more customers. I'll write you prescriptions," Bill Rabold said.

The first person Brandon approached was a man with a drug conviction, who wore a wire. Brandon was busted by the DEA. The agents and Brandon's lawyer thought a year of staying clean would get Brandon probation.

"He stayed clean. He was sentenced just the same. This kid didn't belong in jail even to do a drug program," says his father.

The night before his father was to drive him to the Coleman minimal security prison Brandon died of asphyxiation in a room full of his own trophies.

"Did he have a problem yes...did he belong behind bars no," says his mother.

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