

MEAMEA TOMAS 1987-2013

25 year old Meamea Thomas –Kiribati, a former Institute lifter, 2004 Olympic representative, 2004 Oceania Champion, 2003 Pacific Games gold medallist, 2009 Mini Games Gold medallist, 2011 Pacific Games silver medallist and last year Oceania Champion, was tragically killed in his home country of Kiribati as he tried to save the life of a fellow countryman.

In a last second heroic effort, Meamea Thomas, as he walked along the side of the road, pushed a fellow Kiribati riding a bicycle to safety, to avoid a speeding vehicle headed towards the cyclist. Very sadly Meamea did not have enough time himself to get away and was tragically struck and killed instantly. The occupants of the car were all drunk including the driver.

A tragedy for his family, a tragedy for Kiribati and a tragedy for the sport of weightlifting. A very talented athlete taken in the prime of his life. Our heartfelt sympathies goes to his family, the Kiribati National Olympic Committee and the Kiribati Weightlifting family.



Meamea Thomas at the 2012 Oceania Championships held in Samoa, wins the 105Kg Category



Meamea carrying the Kiribati flag at the 2003 Oceania Junior Championships held on the Island of Niue.



Meamea training at the Oceania Weightlifting Institute in New Caledonia 2009-2010.

