

## **In Memory of Shane Espada-Talebian 1994.03.06 – 2010.06.13**

This past June 13, 2010, Hālau Hula O Kaleiu'iokalani experienced a great loss with the sudden passing of our hula brother, Shane Espada-Talebian.

Shane was very active in sports, and completely involved in anything he ventured to try – especially hula. His passion for hula, particularly the hula kahiko, continually brought him back to the halau. Even as his sports schedule began to fill his time, he would still keep his Sundays for hula; and then when his work schedule took away more of his time, he would often talk with me about when he would return. He was preparing to strengthen his hula kahiko so that he could assist his kokua, Kalanikaukeha, in leading a kāne workshop.

His kindness and helpfulness, his commitment to family and friends, his gentle ribbing, booming laughter and enthusiasm for life set Shane apart and endeared him to so many in his short life-time.

We miss him at the halau, at our hula family's gatherings, but much more so on the line. Because we know how much he loved to dance hula, how much he loved to watch it performed, we believe that he will be with us always whenever we gather for hula. Every time we stand in our line at the halau, each step we take out onto a stage, we will carry with us Shane's love and passion for hula - with every motion, every smile, every kahea - we will dedicate our performances to our hula-brother Shane.

Shane, the son of Kumu Hula Lily Talebian (*the Spirit of Aloha Ohana Hula*) and Amir Talebian, was a student at Hālau Hula O Kaleiu'iokalani since its inception in 2007 and it will never quite be the same knowing that he will not be returning to our line in the years to come.        -Berni U'ilani Cruz