

As you do you wish each other well when these courses finish and we did that. Both had babies and eager grandparents to see them. We wrote to each other for a while but life takes over. Then I got a letter from Tina explaining Mohit's death. I think she was still in shock then, to tell the truth. She is the daughter of a soldier from a long line of soldiers so she is very accepting of her fate. It was dreadful to think of him gone so young.

The rest of world had yet to discover IEDs yet but India knew them well. Strangely I spent my next job working to bring a new armoured vehicle into service in our army and it's saved countless lives because of its protection from the type of bomb that killed Mohit. I think as an engineer I understood the danger and I have worked hard to make sure our own troops don't share the same fate. The death of a friend focuses the mind.

Tina told me then that Fateh was not well but years later I thought I would try to find her. I saw Zorawar was from Doon on Facebook, so knew I had the right young man. Last year she said she needed help to get Fateh some special treatment. It took me a while to get in touch with hospitals but we worked out the right one and estimated costs for treatment, travel, accommodation, living expenses and the like.

The idea was the hard bit along with finding time in a pretty hectic life as an attaché. Eventually I thought of push ups for Fateh or



**L TO R: TINA WHIG, ARUN KUMAR, MOHIT WHIG, BRIG. ML WHIG MVC**

PUFF. Picking a number was hard but four per km of the Tour de France was big enough for most to say I had set a big task. Part way through, I questioned my own sanity when I was doing a thousand in one day!

I trusted my own network and I am a believer in what goes around comes around. I have always tried to be helpful where I can be and I guess some people recognised that. Through Facebook, LinkedIn and my own work emails I sent out the message. My son made a short video for YouTube and with the help of Arun and company in India, it went from 400 hits to 23,000 hits in one weekend. NDTV, Zee TV and BBC Hindi as well as Saikat Datta at The Hindustan Times each made a huge difference.

As we went along we realised more could come from this. Maybe we could make this an annual event where Indians could do a few push-ups over a week to raise money for the families of the fallen so scholarships could be awarded, sick children or widows could be given medical support to make their lives better. Let's face it. If each soldier raised just 100 rupees each year, that is almost a million pounds. That can buy a lot! I think there is much we can do and if Mohit has inspired all this, what better memorial could he have for him?

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