

AUSSIE RULES IS THE GAME

TREVOR JOHNSON "THE PHANTOM"

HIS NAME is Ronald Dale Barassi, he could play the game
A legend in his time & recognised in the Hall of Fame
Barassi was a household name and known Australia wide
He had skills for all to see. He made the All Australian side

His dad made the ultimate sacrifice. Died in the 2nd world war
But had he lived to see, here was a son to love ever more
Multiple premierships with the mighty Demons and a captain to boot
Then a great coach was Barassi, and all the opposition did was hoot

New clubs and flags he won. More than anyone, before
Was there no end to his reign. Barassi won admirers, galore
No matter the oppositions tactics tried, they forever failed
From tough to rough and sorts, but still the great Barassi prevailed

This was a man's man. Respected by one and all
And never was he short, when courage was the call
Remember Barassi soaring for a mark, or ripping through the pack
The crowd would roar, cause Barassi was perched on someones back

There were goals aplenty, and many more passed to his mates
This is a team man. He'll be welcome at the Demons pearly gates
The gifted Barassi excelled in all, but never when he sang
Then again to his loss, Barassi never played footy at Manangatang

We met in 53 as hopefuls, two young Demons there on spec
Whilst I came from Epping, Barassi came from Preston Tech
Barassi the future star to be, and not half handsome
Yours truly, a lesser star, they called me the Phantom

The years have come to pass. Those boots are hung up with regret
Fame and fortune followed, but the fans would not forget
Accolades and awards were his, in this, Barassi had no say
This was recognition, for the man who made it all the way

Well may they say, not Barassi again, a tired old line
But lets remember with pride, he stood the test of time
This man stands tall. Many awards have been his fate
A son of Legacy and protégé of Norm Smith the great

Congrats on your record Ron. Will contact you tomorrow
Tomorrow never comes, causing great regret & sorrow
Thank you for the good years, they were great mate
Time to say well done Ron, tomorrow is too late