

Taxi Industry Achievement Award to Tony DiLucchio

At the 2010 Taxi Council State Conference one of Black & White Cabs long serving Taxi Operators was presented with a Taxi Industry Achievement Award.

In making the presentation, Black & White Cabs General Manager, John Tighe, gave a brief history of Tony's involvement in the taxi industry.


Tony first began in the taxi industry in 1963, driving a taxi part-time while still serving in the regular army. He was discharged in 1964 after serving for six years. It was at that time, when the State Government was issuing 50 extra taxi licences, Tony submitted his name and 'won' a licence in the ballot at a price of 3250 pounds. From that turn of good luck, Tony's world of taxis began. Although 'good luck' played a part in the start, the rest of Tony's story involved working extremely hard... as was the case with all migrants to Australia.

Tony initially worked as full-time Taxi Driver for around six years, during which time he was also employed by Black & White Cabs as Fleet Manager and Taxi meter installer, putting his mechanical experience from the army to good use. Black & White Cabs Head Office at the time was located in Barry Parade, Fortitude Valley, which is now owned by Tony himself.

Tony recalls that owning a taxi licence in those days had to be one's sole means of employment and you had to receive approval from the Commissioner of Transport to be able to work for Black & White Cabs!

By 1985, with more than one licence to his name, Tony devoted his time to running his taxi's from his home (lest we forget to mention, whilst also raising a family of four). In 1987, Tony relocated his home-based taxi business to the site of his first service station at Kelvin Grove. Twenty-three years later, Kelvin Grove continues to be the home of Tony's taxi operations.

In 2000, Tony's long standing involvement with the fuel industry provided him with the opportunity to be



nominated by Shell to be a torch bearer for the Olympic Games – which was an extraordinary opportunity. Tony happily accepted the honour and confidently held the torch high for his leg of the torch run down Lutwyche Road whilst family and friends watched with pride.

Tony was a delegate to the Taxi Council of Queensland (TCQ) for many years, representing Black & White Cabs. In 2008, Tony stood down from an active role with the TCQ, paving the way for his son, Gerry, who had served on the TCQ Metro Committee.

Today, Tony and his family operate three 24-hour service stations and a fleet of over 70 cabs – and just like that Olympic torch, which shone so brightly, Tony too is a bright star and leading example of a truly successful businessman and family man.