Kalani Rodrigues discovered his passion for running late in life.

He just didn’t know that time was short.

As a senior at Heritage High School in 2001, Rodrigues went out for track just to try something different.

Turned out, he was a natural. Though he’d spent much of his youth playing baseball, he was among the fastest sprinters in the region that spring. He continued to run fast for Clark College, earning junior college all-American status as a freshman.

He was on the fast track to success, both as an athlete and as a young man who dreamed of studying fire sciences.

Then the headaches started. And got worse. Soon — much too soon — the dreams of a lifetime were condensed to days.

On Sunday in Vancouver, the impact Rodrigues made on his world will be celebrated for the fifth time since his death from brain cancer at age 21.

"It’s the realization of Kalani’s vision," said Lori Jimerson, Kalani’s mother and the event organizer.

The Kalani Rodrigues Memorial Scholarship 10K Run and 5K Walk will start and end on the Clark College campus. Registration begins at 7 a.m. with the electronic-timed 10K set to start at 8 a.m. and the 5K campus walk at 8:30 a.m.

Money raised will fund academic scholarships for Clark
If you go

- **Event:** K-Rod Run and Walk.
- **When:** Sunday. The 10-kilometer run starts at 8 a.m., while the 5-kilometer campus walk begins at 8:30 a.m.
- **Where:** Clark College's Christensen Soccer Field, on the west side of Fort Vancouver Way.
- **Cost:** $25.
- **Registration:** Day-of-race sign up begins at 7 a.m.
- **Details:** www.clarkcollegefoundation.org/krod

Sunday marks the fifth edition of the K-Rod Run and Walk, a 10-kilometer run and 5K walk fundraiser that honors the life of Kalani Rodrigues, above, who died in 2004 of brain cancer.

Kalani Rodrigues will continue to enrich other’s lives.

Paul Danzer covers Community Sports for The Columbian. Reach him at 360-735-4521 or paul.danzer@columbian.com.