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THE NEED FOR SPEED

Peter Peirano's passion for competitive drag racing dates back four decades and involves his whole family

PETER PEIRANO, principal of Rockhampton-based Piranha Insurance Brokers, has a love of drag racing that began at the age of 17 at Surfers Paradise.

Today, Peirano and his family own the vehicle

Time Traveler and are part of the Aeroflow Outlaw Nitro Funny Car Show, which takes them right across Australia.

"I just love the fact that it is, for us and many other teams, a family event," Peirano says. "The comradeship with our other drag racing families is just amazing."

Asked to name standout highlights from time spent on the track, Peirano mentions his son, Nathan, winning two Australian National Drag Racing Association gold Christmas tree trophies, as well as third place in the Aeroflow Outlaw Nitro Funny Car Spectacular Extravaganza, which saw him beat a USA nitro funny car world champion.

And there's still plenty more on the road ahead.

"We have twice travelled Rockhampton to Perth and back to race," Peirano says. "I just love it."

1930s

Decade during which it's said that drag racing began, in Southern California

1950

Year in which CJ Hart ran the first commercial drag race, in California

1973

Year in which the Australian National Drag Racing Association was created