

Imagery On The Interplay Between "Pursue Pleasure" and 'Avoid Pain"

Post by "Cassius" of March 28, 2023 at 10:02 AM


[Quote from Kalosyni](#)

And that means that Epicureans are not going to be daredevils like Evel Knievel. So the sensory pleasure of flying through the air and the "vain" desire to be able to say you successfully jumped a wide ravine will be set aside, and we would choose to pursue wiser pleasures.

I think the example of Evel Knievel is a good one but the conclusion that "Epicureans are not going to be daredevils like Evel Knievel is much too broad. We'd have to drill down into Evel Knievel and see if he had a death wish, or whether he rationally thought that he could make his jumps and succeed, because if he did, then he calculated that the pleasure he gained from the experience was worth the risk, and in my view that is *exactly* the correct calculus under the Epicurean scheme.

We also have the example of our departed friend whose picture we feature on the front page of the forum, who died in an ultralight crash. No doubt he thought that the pleasure he gained from ultralight flying was worth the risk, and so that would similarly be a choice very compatible with Epicureanism.

It's in fact the "I'll never take any risk that might bring pain" attitude that I think is so damaging and in fact UN-Epicurean.



*A. Singh has sedes tuetur,
Ex Epicureio gaudiuigente choro.*

Non fui, fui, non sum, non curo.

A. Singh: December 24, 1971 - March 10, 2017.

More on the story of Amrinder Singh:

[epicureanfriends.com/thread/709/](https://www.epicureanfriends.com/thread/709/)

<https://www.epicureanfriends.com/thread/2983-imagery-on-the-interplay-between-pursue-pleasure-and-avoid-pain/?postID=23247#post23247>