**Emiel Pauwels (BEL) – he will never compete again**

A EUROPEAN master athletics’ champion at 95, Emiel Pauwels has committed euthanasia because he suffered from cancer - but not before holding a celebration complete with champagne.

Pauwels still looked a picture of vigor when he celebrated his impending death with friends and family, raising glasses two days before an official from his hometown of Bruges confirmed his death on Wednesday.

Pauwels said Monday he had "no regrets...and absolutely no fear of death".

"It is the best party of my life," Pauwels was quoted as saying.

"Who would not want to go out with champagne and surrounded by all their friends?"

"When the doctor arrives with his injection, I shall leave this world knowing that I have led a full life," he said according to the Flemish daily Het Laatste Nieuws.

Pauwels had been confined to bed in recent months, suffering from terminal stomach cancer.

His son Eddy told VTM network he "agreed 110 per cent with father" to step out of life when prospects offered no hope.

In Belgium, euthanasia is legal for people over age 18 and over 1400 people a year choose the option to die peacefully.

Pauwels held the over-90 60 metres European title he won last year. Bruges is planning to name a street after him.

(taken from the internet platform of www. news.com.au)

We will miss you – Emiel!

On behalf of the EVAA Family

Kurt Kaschke
EVAA President