ON THE fourth anniversary of Steve Irwin’s death, Robert and Bindi Irwin have paid tribute to their dad in true Crocodile Hunter style: launching themselves at a 2.5m Cape York saltwater croc.

Some families lay flowers, others light candles. The Irwins wrestle crocodiles. Robert and Bindi’s first joint croc jump occurred on a one-month crocodile research tour of the Steve Irwin Wildlife Reserve deep in the Cape York Peninsula, where University of Queensland scientists have been fixing satellite tracking units to crocodiles to gain world-first insight into the ancient and under-researched predators.

Robert Irwin — the profound, and at times unsettling, image of his dad — leapt head-first at the Cape York killer, wrestling its jaws closed with his elbow. His sister followed close behind, driving her shoulder into the crocodile like a footballer. “Gotcha!” screamed Robert.

Four years on from Steve’s tragic death, killed by a stingray barb while filming in the Great Barrier Reef, his widow Terri Irwin said she was still grieving deeply following the loss of her soul mate.