

Mervyn Alexander Belshore.

Born in Clermont, Qld to Ethel May and Alexander Belshore on 23rd Feb 1921. His dad was a building contractor who came from Buenos Ayres, South America. He changed the spelling of his name from Bellshaw to Belshore because Australians were not sympathetic towards anyone with a German sounding name seeing it was during the first World War & he was finding work hard to come by. He & Ethel were married on the 29th Oct 1917. Whilst Merv was still very young Alexander disappeared, no one has seen or heard of him since.

Despite Merv's small beginnings & being very dyslexic he prospered in everything he did. At age fourteen his athletic prowess caused him to come to Brisbane to be able to train & compete with all that Brisbane had to offer in Athletics. Between 1936 - 40 he won many state titles including the open 120 yds hurdles & open discus. He was placed in shot, hammer, javelin decathlon, high jump, pole vault & hop step & jump titles. He also was a champion swimmer.

All this was brought to an end when Merv was shockingly wounded in action during the Japanese attack at Milne Bay in 1942. He lay in Greenslopes Hosp for 12 mths. & more not expected to live. He had a wonderful doctor by the name of Dr Stubbs - Brown who told him that his physical fitness from a life on the athletic field pulled him through. I remember Merv telling me that every time he opened his eyes he looked into the face of his beloved doctor, he seemed always to be at his bedside.

After the war & now unable to compete very much he became the Official Starter for

Athletics in Old + was on the panel of starters at the 1956 Olympic Games in Melbourne + the 1962 Commonwealth Games in Perth.

There has been much written about Merv + his Athletic career in the News papers + I still have some paper clippings in my possession also our daughter Patricia has photos of her Dad in action on the Athletic field.

His Grandson Peter Farquharson wrote an assignment on his Grandfather which the children at Mt Gravatt primary school were asked to write on their Grandfather 50 yrs post war. This assignment gives a lot of information about Merv's army days + well worth the reading. There is also a book "The Jersey Breed" in the chest of drawers in the front bedroom which has enclosed in it clippings which provide interesting reading.

Although Merv did not live out his length of days he packed his life to the full with everything he wished to do. On the 18th July 1965 he succumbed to a massive coronary, the aftermath of his war injuries. There is a niche § 1 16 12 4th top row 12th from left in the military section at the Mt. Thompson Crematorium. R.I.P.

This has now changed since Mum died.

on July 20 19.

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