



Probussouthpacific Club of Glen Osmond Inc. (Founded June 1982)

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'Professional and Business People Enjoying Friendship, Fellowship and Fun in Retirement'



Eulogy for Brian Stephen Blunt 1926 - 2018

At the General meeting on Monday 5th November 2018, President Brian W. Rice presented the Eulogy for our respected member, Brian Blunt.

Our recent member Brian Blunt passed away suddenly on Monday 22nd October 2018 aged 91 years.

Brian joined our Club in April 2013 but resigned last February due to his advancing years.

On your behalf I have expressed our sincere condolences to his son Jeff and family who held a private funeral for Brian last Wednesday, 31st October.

The Death Notice was published in the Advertiser and The Grafton Chronicle and in part read;

BLUNT, Brian Stephen. Passed away peacefully on October 22, 2018 Aged 91 years Beloved Husband of the late Rhonda for 69 wonderful years Dearly loved Father of Dianne, Jeff, Phil and Tony and loved Father-in-law of Andrew, Trish, and Sharon Adored Papa of Michael, Angela, David Matthew, Amanda Tyron, Zac and all their lovely partners Proud Great-Papa of Emilia, Grace Thomas, Luke, Dylan Forever in our hearts

A Personal Tribute was also published in the Advertiser and The Grafton Daily Examiner and read;

BLUNT, Brian Stephen R. A. A. F. Association MITCHAM, Members are advised of the passing of our late member Brian Blunt LEST WE FORGET

This gave me the clue to research Brian via the RSL Virtual War Memorial Website which I have mentioned to you on many occasions and which shows that Brian was born in Eudunda, South Australia on 31st October 1926. He enlisted in Adelaide on 6th February 1945, when he joined the RAAF aged 19 years. He was discharged 27th June 1946, so served for just over one year.

Please be upstanding for one minute's silence in honour of both Rob Saint and Brian Blunt.

Death Notice in the Advertiser and The Grafton Chronicle Thursday 1st November 2018

BLUNT, BRIAN STEPHEN

BLUNT, Brian Stephen. Passed away peacefully on October 22, 2018 Aged 91 years Beloved Husband of the late Rhonda for 69 wonderful years Dearly loved Father of Dianne, Jeff, Phil and Tony and loved Father-in-law of Andrew, Trish, and Sharon Adored Papa of Michael, Angela, David Matthew, Amanda Tyron, Zac and all their lovely partners Proud Great-Papa of Emilia, Grace Thomas, Luke, Dylan Forever in our hearts Privately Cremated CHARLES BERRY & SON berryfunerals.com.au 1800 222 210

Obituaries

Published in *The Advertiser* on 01/11/2018

Personal Tribute published in the Advertiser and The Grafton Daily Examiner Thursday 1st November 2018

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Read more about Brian Blunt' service history at;
<https://vwma.org.au/explore/people/516413>

Eulogy for Brian Stephen Blunt FCPA JP (retired) by his son, Jeff Blunt

The Blunt Family kindly supplied the following Eulogy for Brian Blunt which was delivered at his Private Family Funeral.

Growing Up

Brian was an only child and was born in Eudunda 31st October 1926 in his Grandmother's front room.

With his Dad being a station master in the SA Railways, the family moved frequently. So Dad had an interesting and varied life growing up in many different places and attending different schools; from Hallet, Riverton, Port Pirie and finally Adelaide when his Father was appointed as station master at the Adelaide Railway Station living in a house overlooking the railways – his home address was simply stated as the Adelaide Railway Station.

His Career

His long term career aspiration was always in Accountancy or Banking as reflected in his Adelaide Boys High School academic progress reports under vocational interests.

World War 2 intervened disrupting his education. He left high school in 1942 aged 16 years after completing his Intermediate Year and went to work as a Ledger Keeper for Parsons and Robertson.

When he turned 18 years of age he was called up to the services on 31/10/1944 but enlistment was delayed 6 months until 6/2/1945 as he was working in a protected industry. His Father insisted that Dad did not enlist in the Army (maybe from his own personal experiences from World War 1). So Dad enlisted with the RAAF and underwent training at Shepparton and later was posted to Tocumwal, a major RAAF training airfield and aircraft depot.

Fortunately the War finished shortly thereafter and he returned to work for Parsons and Robertson and met Rhonda, the love of his life, and our beautiful mother. They married on 26/02/1949.

He later left Parsons and Robertson and moved to work for Barr Smiths.

His passion for accountancy and banking never left him. He studied as a mature aged student at night school to achieve his Accountancy qualification and became qualified as a CPA in 1954.

He went into a partnership to form an accountancy business converting an old home into offices in Melbourne Street, North Adelaide, calling this Rhoncee House after the partners' wives, Rhonda and Nancy.

This venture was successful but required total dedication and long hours. In 1963, the business was expanded with Brian taking over a business on Kangaroo Island. The young family relocated to Kingscote.

After 10 years on the Island, Dad relocated his business back to Adelaide as the education opportunities for his growing family were limited on the Island.

He eventually merged his successful business into Gray Perry's in the later years but continued to work albeit part time into his 80's reflecting the strong work ethic he displayed throughout his life.

Community Service and Interests

Dad was involved in community service projects throughout his life.

On discharge from the services, he joined the Mitcham RAAF Association and remained a member for the rest of his life. In the early days, he enjoyed physical activities playing social tennis each Saturday and participated in the various community event activities organised by the RAAF Association.

He was a Charter Member of the Lions Club of Adelaide Light which was formed in 1962. On Kangaroo Island he was the Charter President of the Kangaroo Island Lions Club. He continued to work in Lions with the Burnside Lions Club when the family moved back to Adelaide. He was also a member of the Glen Osmond Probus Club.

On the Island, Dad was appointed a Justice of the Peace assisting in the local court when required, and other civil duties required of a JP. He helped establish a kindergarten school in Kingscote in association with the local church and was the President of the Kingscote Area School Council. We proudly recall Dad at the sports carnivals giving out the various trophies.

His love of tennis continued when he relocated to Kangaroo Island. The house they bought in Kingscote included a tennis court. The Saturday social tennis parties with his KI friends were fun.

Later in life, tennis gave way to playing golf, though he did not have the time to be fully committed to that game. He would go jogging around the River Torrens and attend fitness classes with mum when living in North Adelaide.

As his three boys joined the Scouting movement, Dad was also involved in cubs and scouts. He went with Tony on a scout camp during which Tony cut his knee badly and Dad carried him to the doctors to be treated.

Dad was second IC to mum when it came establishing and maintaining the beautiful gardens everywhere they lived. Mum and Dad had the perfect relationship when it came to the garden. She was the designer and supervisor and Dad sometimes reluctantly, provided the labour and maintenance. He was very capable 'hands on' when it came to gardening. After all with the number of moves (eight all up) he got in a lot of practice. The house in Kingscote proved to be the most challenging as the garden required limestone removal using a crow bar and the laying of concrete paths. Not to mention the clearing of the occasional blockages in the septic tanks.

Dad and mum enjoyed travel, both within Australia and overseas, sometimes with good friends, meeting up with relatives and making new friends along the way.

With family and grandchildren dispersed around Australia, there were frequent trips to Canberra, Tasmania, WA and Darwin to visit the family and grandchildren. Dad always addressed both his granddaughters as "princess".

Dad enjoyed keeping his mind active. His love of cross word puzzles continued to the day of his passing. He was an avid reader until his eye sight made this difficult. He enjoyed watching TV, mostly the news and action dramas.

As a Father and Husband

Our Dad had a good life with few health issues until the very end. He was a loving father and husband. We were very privileged having him around for as long as we did. He had a lovely network of friends, many, sadly, are now deceased.

Dad lived for us, his wife, children and grandchildren. We were his life. He was always there for us, as our confidant, mentor, and friend.

Everyone loved Dad and enjoyed his company. He was honest, trustworthy and a gentleman and polite while being relaxed. He was a stickler when it came to accuracy and detail. Dad would never bend the rules. Along with a good sense of humour, this was the way he approached life and business.

He was always punctual and would drive mum crazy getting to airports an hour earlier than necessary. They never missed a flight!

No matter what happened, he was always supportive of the family and unfazed by events such as when Tony rolled Mum's car or set fire to the house or with Phil painting the garage door to name just a few!

Dad would never show emotion in public, e.g. he would never be seen shedding tears which was the way of that male generation. But we knew that he loved us all and his actions and deeds said it all.

Our parents must have been pretty tolerant, what with Jeff practicing playing the recorder in Primary School, Phil learning to play the piano and trumpet and Tony the drums at Olive Grove. Not to mention Jeff's fetish for stringing aerial wiring everywhere outside for his passion with crystal sets.

Dad was always supportive of his children whether it was helping Jeff with his sailing and fishing interests, Phil and Tony with Scouts and Di with her involvement in Theatre 62.

Di and Jeff remember going on family holidays to some beachside holiday house in a VW Beetle. Mum would bring out to the car all the luggage, plus the cooking she would have done and Dad would be expected to work the miracle of fitting it all into a very small space. There would be much cursing and grumbling but somehow he made it work and we would go and have a great time.

Dad wasn't religious but grew up firmly with Christian values. We all attended Sunday School in Adelaide and on Kangaroo Island and went to church most Sundays, as was done back in the 1960's. The church community proved to be great support for Mum and Dad when they first moved to Kingscote.

As Dad never learnt how to swim, he was determined that all his children went to swimming lessons each year either in Adelaide or on Kangaroo Island.

Conclusion

We would like to pay a special tribute and thanks to all the people at the Myrtle Bank RSL Veteran Homes for the care and attention that they offered Dad, particularly after Mum passed away in January this year. Dad was really lost without Mum but the friendship and companionship was of immense help to Brian after her passing. And a big thankyou to Tony for his wonderful care and support of Dad since Mum passed in January.

Finally, we always looked up to Dad, and were always so proud of him. What a great team Dad and Mum made, and what a great job he did in bringing up his four children.

We are so proud to be able to have had you as our Father, our Dad. Thank you for everything, the love, the guidance and values that you gave us. You will always be in our hearts.

Dad is now joined in spirit with Rhonda, the love of his life.

Vale our dear Dad.