



VALE.

...The office of the Administrator has advised of the sad news of the death in Melbourne of former Administrator of Norfolk Island, Air Commodore Bob Dalkin, on the evening of 18th November. It was Bob's son Peter who rang through this news.

Many of us remember Bob and Helen Dalkin who were in residence at Government House from 1968 to 1972.

Air Commodore Robert Nixon Dalkin, DFC, AS, MA, RAAF (ret'd), retired from the Royal Australian Air Force to take up his post as Administrator of Norfolk Island. He had had a distinguished career in the RAAF seeing war service in the South-West Pacific and was attached to R.A.F. Bomber Command, Europe.

Post-war, he held a number of Director appointments in the Department of Air; Commandant of Fairbairn and Williamtown air bases, RAAF Cadet College and RAAF Staff College.

He also held senior RAAF staff appointments in London, Melbourne and Canberra being appointed Honorary Aide-de Camp to the Governor-General and appointed A.D.C. to Her Majesty the Queen in 1966.

He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and had a Master's degree with the Australian National University.

One of his main interests was history and he became very much involved with the history of Norfolk Island and its Colonial links.

During his term as Administrator of Norfolk Island Bob Dalkin founded the Norfolk Island Historical Society, becoming its first President. He was responsible also for fostering and developing the important project of restoration and maintenance of the colonial era buildings at Kingston. His book, "The Colonial Era Cemetery Book on Norfolk Island" continues to be a popular and useful guide to our cemetery.

After he left Norfolk Island, Bob took up an appointment as Canberra agent for East-West Airlines and visited Norfolk many times.

His Honour the Administrator, Mr. Bruce Mac Donald who is currently in Canberra on official business attended the funeral of Air Commodore

Dalkin on Friday. Bruce faxed the following through on Friday afternoon:

"In a moving eulogy, Sir Neville McNamara, former Chief of the Air Staff (and father of Mrs. Shelly Grant) referred at some length to Air Commodore Dalkin's period as Administrator and quoted from writings by Sir Richard Kingsland, who was present at the service - and former Minister for External Territories, the Rt.Hon Andrew Peacock.

In his personal tribute, son Peter - at the specific request of his late father - read the words of the Pitcairn Anthem".

It is to Helen and Peter and other members of the family that we send our sincere sympathies.

Peter's address is c/- P.O.Box 44, Deakin, ACT 2600.

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