



Christine Anne McDowell

23.10.1960 – 13.11.2023

Christine was born in Warkworth New Zealand on 23rd October 1960. She was the youngest child of three. Her mother's family Jill McDowell was from Norfolk Island (Pitcairn descent) and her father James McDowell a Civil Engineer from Northern Ireland.

Her grandfather was a Cable and Wireless engineer at Anson Bay and on leaving Norfolk Island her mother's family travelled to various Cable and Wireless postings around the Pacific.

While in Malaya her mother met and married her father James McDowell a Civil Engineer from Northern Ireland. The family lived in Malaya for about 10 years where her two brothers David and Philip were born. With the onset of the Malayan Emergency (Communist Insurgency) the family left Malaya moving to New Zealand where Christine was born and grew up.

As a child Chris liked all the typical girl activities. She learnt to play the piano well, enjoyed ballet, Scottish dancing and was a member of Brownies and Girl Guides. In her high school years she was sent to board at Diocesan Girls High School in Auckland but was desperately homesick and came home to finish her school years at Mahurangi College.

Wondering what to do after leaving school, she realised she enjoyed being with and helping people and went on to train as a Registered Nurse. She completed her training at Whangarei Hospital and, following a short stint at Greenlane Hospital Auckland, travelled overseas to work in the UK. She never returned to New Zealand other than holidays to visit family.

Chris worked for a number of years in the children's Oncology Unit at El Ain Hospital in the United Arab Emirate and also Aljazeera Hospital in Riyadh Saudi Arabia and then, on moving back to Sydney, spent the next 35 years working at Prince of Wales Hospital in Randwick. While there she became the focal point

for many Norfolk Islanders travelling to the PoW for medical treatment.

Christine had a strong sense of fairness in society. Her values and loyalty drove her. She loved her patients and those down and out including spending time on the street buses in Sydney and had no time for large dollar driven corporations.

Four years ago Chris moved to Eden with her husband Steve where they thoroughly enjoyed the beauty of the harbour, beaches and bush. They integrated quickly into the community and enjoyed all it had to offer.

Always of cheerful disposition and strong in her faith, her strength of character showed right to the end.

"How lucky I am to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard."

– A.A. Milne (Winnie-the-Pooh)

Love you Sis
Philx



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