



### ***The Life of Lorraine Foster***

**28.06.41 -1.07.18**

This would have to be one of the hardest things I have ever done to, write and then speak to you all about my beautiful wife, sweetheart, love of my life and soul mate. With the help of Joean, Malcolm, John and Honi I could write a book about Lorraine's life, such has the life of Lorraine been so full. I have been blessed to have spent the past 15 years with her and would have to say the best 15 years of my life. So I will attempt to condense as much of her life and make this Eulogy as short as possible but still give you all an overview of her wonderful 77 yrs in this world.

Born 28th June 1941 to mother Gloria Grainger and father Arthur Ling in Cessnock, NSW. Her father never played much of a part in Lorraine's life, soon after she was born her father left for overseas service during the 2nd World War. On his return and following the birth of a brother, Graeme, her father left and mother, Gloria, was responsible for the upbringing of her bundle of joy. In her early teens her mother moved to Maroubra with Lorraine to live with her Grandmother. They all lived together in the Maroubra Junction Hotel where her grandmother was the cook and mother Gloria was a barmaid in the bar downstairs.

Her sporting prowess began in Cessnock and Singleton with swimming and diving in particular her passion. Tennis followed soon after and was on the tennis court in Maroubra one day when a handsome young man named Max Stuart spotted her beauty and fell in love and they married in February 1959 at the tender young age of 18 yrs. Max was a talented sign writer and following their marriage they travelled to Surfers Paradise where Max began a very successful sign writing business.

*(continued overleaf)*

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**Central location!** Newly painted and decorated 2-bed home. Kitchen, large lounge, reception room, bathroom, laundry with WC. Close to all amenities. Level land, 10,000 gals approx. water storage. **\$240,000**

**Huge reduction!** Older-style home, flat portion with beautiful gardens plus mixed orchard. This 2-bed home has been recently renovated recently renovated and has timber floors, kitchen with a large pantry and a separate bathroom and toilet. There is an outside room/office and a covered front verandah ideal for entertaining. Three-bay garage. Great value for money. **\$250,000**

**Best buy under \$300,000!** Centrally located, low-maintenance, easy care home. 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, with light-filled, open-plan living. Beautifully furnished, this could be the perfect place to hang your hat. **\$295,000**

**Immaculately presented!** 3-bed, 2-bath cottage in a convenient location handy to town and school. Sunny position. Expansive front verandah. Open-plan living. Country style kitchen. Approx. 18,000 gallons underground water storage. 1kW photovoltaic power panels. Solar hot water. Property on town sewerage system. Concrete drive and garage. **\$375,000**

**Exclusive!** In a private location, this 3-bed home on level land has beautiful timber floors. Open-plan living with timber-beamed ceiling plus fireplace. Renovated bathroom with bath and shower, plus separate WC and laundry. Enjoy the serenity and views. Low-maintenance garden with mature trees. Timber water tank. Close to town. **Reduced, was ~~\$415,000~~, now \$398,000**

**Exclusive!** Move in, sit down! This home is a delight and so well looked after. Includes three bedrooms all with built-ins and two ensuites, large covered verandah, light-filled open-plan living area, and new kitchen. With your own private woodland this home has views to the mountain and distant ocean. **\$525,000 ONO**

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### ***Lorraine Foster - continued***

By the age of 21 Lorraine had 3 beautiful children Joean, Malcolm and John with Honi following a few years later in 1969. Max, besides being an accomplished tennis player was also a very good golfer and did not take much convincing by Max to introduce her to golf. Lorraine took to that like a duck to water and wasn't long before her handicap came tumbling down and she too became a very good golfer. That became her main passion besides bringing up 4 children. Her family extended to 8 grand children plus one great grandchild born only a few days after her passing.

Lorraine's marriage to Max broke down in 1986 and in 1990 she married Terrence Bianchi with that sadly only lasting 8 years with the sudden passing of Terrence in 1998.

In a piano bar in Broadbeach on the Gold Coast in June 2003, Lorraine and Steve met and have been inseparable since. Following a holiday to Norfolk Island in 2012 Lorraine fell in love with this beautiful place, returning in October 2013 when Steve and Lorraine married on the sand of Emily Bay. Following the sale of their home on the Gold Coast in Feb 2014 a trip to Norfolk and the purchase of a home ensured this was to be her final resting place.

Lorraine was full of life and her day's on the Gold Coast were always full of Tennis party's or lunches with her many girl friends or playing golf. Her sporting achievement's also extended to a talent in water skiing and following a winter holiday in NZ snow skiing joined another of her sporting accomplishments with many trips to the NSW ski fields.

Always a capable orator Lorraine was always at the ready to voice her opinion of whatever was being discussed, or whatever she observed that required her opinion, sometimes a touch controversial but always with good intent, and many other times extremely funny. I am sure those moments will be discussed over refreshments later at the Golf Club.

Lorraine was always a very stylish dresser, either on the Golf Course or just going out to a social event, her wardrobe a princess would be proud of, but then she was a princess. One day she said to her mother 'why do you always have more money than me'. Her mother's reply, because you wear yours. But she always said it was her mother that taught her good dress sense. And with words like if you cannot play the part at least look the part. And she always did look the part. Among her many other talents Lorraine was a very capable dressmaker, a knitter of many fine garments but also at arts including some amazing cross stitch work and ceramics.

I would like to make a special mentioned to all the wonderful and caring Norfolk Island Hospital Staff, Dr Glen Zerby initially then Dr Alex John and in particular the Aged Care nursing staff, who gave such excellent care as Lorraine's illness progressed in the last few weeks, and for your wonderful caring work that you all do in that area. It was not one of my choices that I was hoping I would not have to make but once it became a necessity to admit Lorraine to permanent 24/7 care we could not stop thanking the nursing staff

for their dedication to their work with the residential persons under their care. And the kitchen staff. You are all magnificent. I was going to name them all but in fear of missing someone, you know who you are.

The family would also like to thank all the wonderful love, support and caring you have all shown to us since Lorraine's passing. Such is the culture and the spirit of this beautiful place, Norfolk Island. Thank you all for attending this afternoon and to pay special thanks to all the family and friends who have travelled from overseas to pay their last respects - Lorraine would have been so proud and honoured. To Shane and the grave diggers - the pall bearers, the ladies at the "usual place for wreath making" and the many donations of flowers. Mal for driving Lorraine on her last journey and to all those who have shown comfort and support in so many ways - especially later at the Golf Club.

God bless you all

May Lorraine rest in Everlasting Peace

*Steve, Honi and Gold Coast family Joean, Malcolm & John.*

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### ***Vale***

### **Richard Gray 'Dick'**

It is with sadness that we received the news of the passing of Dick who left us peacefully at home in Hamilton on Wednesday 18th July with Joy by his side.

He was a much loved part of our community for many years teaching the kids to play tennis, and was instrumental in creating the tennis complex we enjoy today.

His funeral will be held in New Zealand early next week.



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