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.

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.

