



Robert Stanley Little

20.01.1935 – 12.11.2021

Bob was born in Narrabri N.S.W. on the 20th January, 1935, the only child of Rex and Veronica Little

Bob – described by his son Stuart and daughter Elizabeth as “a man with a strong sense of loyalty who always went to great lengths to keep in touch with friends & family. Dad loved being busy, lived his life fully, and then always tried to add something more just to make sure.”

Throughout his childhood the family moved about NSW wherever Bob’s father’s business took them - Inverell, Dubbo, Berry.... then Bob’s first passion presented itself.

Bob and his father Rex shared a mutual passion for racing.... breeding, owning, racing, adjusting – anything at all to do with horses. They had some success – no “Black Caviars” among them – but the walls of Bob’s office in Australia are lined with winning post finishes. He loved Melbourne Cup time and was always delighted when people insisted on getting his tip for the winner of the cup before they placed their own bet each year.

The need to retell tall tales of dead-heat finishes was also a passion!!

A good tertiary education was a must. After Bob attended different schools with each move around the state, the decision was made to send Bob to boarding school - The Scots College Sydney. Bob’s interest in the college and his old school mates burns fiercely even today.

It’s certainly displayed in the numerous emails and notes I am receiving daily from those who shared their tertiary years with Bob, boarding at this famous old school. An only child from the bush among lots of others like himself – what fun.

Only last year he organized a luncheon for 20 or so old boys to ensure that he caught up with some of his mates one last time.

He was the base drummer in the Scots College Pipe Band and loved every minute of it.

Pharmacy was definitely a passion.. He met his first wife Judy at pharmacy lectures at Sydney Uni in 1953. They had the same friends, went to the same parties, married and had two children and built their very own



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“Little’s Pharmacy” after renovating an empty dress shop on Liverpool Road at Ashfield

In Judy’s words “... long long days ... not much money... restocking shelves at night, cleaning, bookwork all ready for the next day and we did it for 8 long years...”

They took short holidays – with friends sometimes but never together as the business grew and the pharmacist had to be on hand. In 1960 Bob’s passion for snow skiing was born out of one of these holidays.

As you can imagine Bob was a good skier and loved it! With life-long pharmacy friends he continued to enjoy his time on the slopes in Thredbo, Perisher, Mt Hutt in New Zealand and a fabulous holiday we shared in Canada with Ann and Eldon Foote.

The family’s love of Norfolk was born out of holidays spent here and on Lord Howe Island and Bob’s parents also felt the pull of the island.

Rex and Von eventually bought a property “Ternwood” at the end of Two Chimneys Road where they enjoyed taking regular breaks from their Sydney life. That property was to become the site of our own home in early 2000 and is still affectionately known as “Ternwood”.

Rotary somehow managed to squeeze into Bob’s weekly schedule both in Sydney and Norfolk. Bob was a Paul Harris Fellow and Past President of the Rotary Club of Norfolk Island.

In 1995 Bob and I married and we have had a truly marvelous life together – incredible travels and adventures overseas meeting interesting and exciting people and visiting (and sometimes re-visiting) some of the world’s great treasures.

We have worked hard here on Norfolk rebuilding poulds & including the “gallery” business into it - lots of fun too with ron champion & our staff over the years & more recently with louci holding the fort for us quite brilliantly in very tough times.

But bob’s greatest passion was – yes –tennis. Bob once told me that he didn’t really play much tennis until he came to Norfolk. He played golf... and played it well - left handed.

Son Stuart remembers how his father loved tennis and they would sometimes play together at the Tennis Ranch in Sydney when Stu was in his mid-teens. However he has no recollection of seeing his father play again until some 35 years later. It was an unexpected occasion and one stuart treasures greatly.

In the meantime of course Cheryl Tennis Club and Foot Nort Tennis Club had captured Bob’s heart. He enjoyed the fellowship and the competition enormously. He won medals in Cheryl comps and made great mates. He especially loved to partner the kids – because they did all the running!

Bob played tennis wherever we travelled and the only questions he ever asked when I was booking a hotel was “does it have a tennis court, a pro and can I hire a racquet? “

I can assure you our suitcases are big enough to take Bob’s racquet. No tennis court – no booking!

Bob’s issues with melanoma cancer started some years ago but seemed to escalate dramatiially over the

past 18 months and especially in the last 6 weeks.

For the past year he has been having immunotherapy treatment and radiation treatment in Sydney however it became obvious that further treatment was of no benefit.

The doctors and nurses at our own Norolk Island hospital here have been outstanding in the tender care, attention and love shown to Bob and I would like to thank them for the endless support and consideration shown to me personally.

Speaking with Bob’s friends and family these past few days the same special message has been repeated time and time again- “Bob has left us with wonderfully happy memories”

Could there be a better epitaph for any man?

Narelle

Thank You

The Little family would like to sincerely thank all those who cared so gently, respectfully and lovingly for Bob in his final days.

- Dr Peter Manns and Dr Andy and the marvellous nursing and hospital staff – not forgetting the jelly makers!
- All the friends who visited Bob held his hand and relived fond memories.
- To the coffin makers and gravediggers who prepared his place of rest
- Tardy for delivering Bob safely to Kingston via the scenic route.
- To Shane Quintal for his care and respectful attention and beautiful presentation of Bob’s final resting place.
- To Bob’s mates and pallbearers: John Mogey, Mark Hayes, Peter Horrocks, Pendo, Peter Arthur and Michael Sterling
- To Lynne Mogey and the ladies for the enormous number of floral tributes and Lynne and John’s inventive tennis themed coffin arrangement.
- To Andrew Roach, our piper, who unknowingly granted Bob his last wish...a Scots College Piper to pipe him to his grave...a special thank you!
- To those who sent flowers and beautiful messages - and especially the endlessly supportive friends without whom Narelle would not have managed: Charisse Clarke, John and Lynne, Sue and Ray, Rex and Megan, Peter Horrocks, Louci and Lee, And Fenella
- Chris Gatehouse for the music.
- Special affection for friends Warwick and Therese who came from the Gold Coast to farewell Bob.
- To Joanne & Ernie for the truly elegantly presented wake at Bounty Lodge Restaurant... shame about the rain
- And to Bruce Walker who stepped in at the last minute and brilliantly performed the service and for all the loving support, meals , music, tears and coffee Bruce , Annie and Narelle shared over the past weeks .

Endless thanks, appreciation and love to you all.

Narelle