



Vale
Thornton Edgar Yager

Thornton Edgar Yager was born on 28th January 1931. He was the youngest child of eleven born to Leslie Fairfax Quintal (Pa Les) and Beatrice Ellen Quintal nee Yager (Aunt Jinny).

When Thornton was six months old his uncle and aunt, John Thornton (Bobo) and Ellen (Dear Bobo) Yager offered to mind Thornton for a while. A while turned into years and it was not until he turned 21 and needed his birth certificate that he realised the Yagers were not his parents. He decided at that point to change his name from Quintal to Yager and by then he had acquired the nickname Daniel.

Like most kids in those days, Daniel had a tough childhood, cutting firewood, walking miles to milk cows and shoes were for church on Sunday only. At one time his job was to go to the chapel to open up at night and light the lamps for evening service. He said it was pretty fraidy when a draught blew the lamps out and he was there all by himself in the chapel. When he got a bit older he used to pump the bellows for the organ and bin usa get in trouble from Tommy Snar cause he was smoking a cigarette out the back en dem smoke bin usa come out ar organ.

In his teenage years Dan and his cousins and mates got up to lots of mischief, riding horses, then motorbikes and playing practical jokes. One night at a party, they painted a brown horse white and waited in the dark until it's owner came out, laughing cause he kar find his horse. Goodness knows what happened to that poor horse.

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Thornton Edgar Yager - continued

In July 1960 Dan met Carole Simmonds at party at Bounty Lodge. It was love at first sight and in March 1963 they were married at St Barnabas Chapel. They enjoyed a happy marriage for 56 years.

Dan and Carole went on to have a family of three children, Juliette, Tracey and Peter. He always provided for his family, growing fruit and veges and he made sure they never wanted for anything. He loved them dearly and was very proud of their achievements. However, his love and affection for his granddaughters, Lauren, Rachel, Charlotte, Mercedes and Eloise was legendary!

Daniel left school at 14 years of age and was apprenticed to Cuppa Tea Buffett to learn cabinet making. At 18 he was employed by Works and Housing as a "nipper" and then progressed onto driving a jeep, servicing and driving heavy machinery.

His ex-Army Willis jeep was a worry. On one trip to Emily Bay for a family picnic he had his Mum Aunt Jinny next to him, his 3 sisters in the back and his two young nephews loaded on top of hessian and poles and boxes of food on the trailer.

Going down Taylor's Road just about where Tern Corner is today, the Jeep jumped out of gear and Dan couldn't reengage it. The brakes also failed. With his Mum yelling "Slow down you mad fool, slow down." Two of his sisters passed out from fear, and his other sister Enid calling to her two boys to hold on, he had his hands more than full. It was a wild ride, and the two boys thought it was the best ride of their lives, little realising how close they had all come to meeting their Maker that day. It was a miracle also that no-one else was coming up the hill at the time.

When Works and Housing left Norfolk, Daniel did various jobs and then worked droving cattle and butchering until he was employed by the whaling company on Norfolk. He also spent one season whaling at Byron Bay with his good mate Alec Nobbs.

When Dan returned to Norfolk he worked for and then became the manager of Hopkins General Store, known as Big Hopkins where the Bounty Centre and Toy Shop are today..

In 1965 Dan was approached by Alan Roberts to manage Leaside when it was situated in what is now "The Local". Leaside then shifted across the road in 1967, and in 1970 Dan and Carole purchased the business. Although Dan retired from Leaside in his 60's he was actively involved in the business

particularly when in 2003 the building was replaced by the Leaside Arcade. Even though he was supposed to be retired, Dan bought a picture framing business which he operated for many years.

Apart from work and family, Dan was also very active and involved within the Norfolk Island community.

He served in the positions of Magistrate, Justice of the Peace and was a member of the Norfolk Island Lions Club for 50 years. During his time in Lions he was well known as the man with the Christmas cakes. In fact, Dan was still trying to sell a carton of last year's Christmas cakes to one of the nurses in his last days.

Dan was a true diplomat. He was comfortable having cocktails with the Queen at Holyrood Palace in Scotland and meeting the Prime Minister of India in India, but probably his most enjoyable times were with the boys at the Bowlo and his coffee mates on Tuesdays.

Sport played an important part in Dan's life. In his youth he played football, tennis and golf. Later on Dan was Patron of the Greens Football Club and enjoyed hosting many barbecues for the team at his home.

His tennis serve was legendary, as demonstrated one night out at Headstone where he had come to supper. An obese cockroach climbed up the wall and Daniel quietly rose from the table and said "Watch dieh." And with that grabbed a length of polythene pipe from off the kitchen floor, and 'served' the cockroach. He found his mark and it literally disappeared into thin air. The young ones in the family especially were suitably impressed.

In May 1956 Danny Yager was accepted as a member of the Norfolk Island Bowling Club, an organisation that was to play an enormous part in his life. He was the only person to play in the first 50 Bounty Tournaments and skipped many winning teams often playing with his mates Billy "Pumper" Adams and Sid Cooper. Dan was President of the club 10 times and was given the honour of being a Life member and Patron.

Bowls took Dan to many corners of the world. He played in Fiji, New Zealand, Canada, England, Malaysia, the Cook Islands, Samoa, Papua New Guinea, Singapore and Australia. All of these representing his Island home. He was delighted to win a silver medal at the South Pacific Games in Fiji and a bronze medal in Dunedin at the Asia/Pacific Games.

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Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games **Jul 27, 2022 – Aug 7, 2022**

Birmingham 2022 will see a significant decrease in direct Games delivery costs, compared to Gold Coast 2018. Birmingham 2022 is bucking the trend for global sports events



Thornton Edgar Yager - continued

Through his involvement with the Bowling Club, Dan became a member of the Norfolk Island Amateur Sports Association. In 1986 at the Commonwealth Games in Scotland, Dan and Uncle Tom Lloyd's attendance and no doubt gentle persuasion, began the process of Norfolk Island's entry into the Commonwealth Games. Four years later in 1990 Norfolk Island sent their first official team to the Commonwealth Games in Auckland. Dan became President of the Norfolk Island Amateur Sports and Commonwealth Games Association and attended six Commonwealth Games, as a bowls competitor, Chef de Mission and a VIP. He and Tom traveled extensively to further Norfolk's advancement in world sport and became well known throughout the Pacific Island sporting world.

In the Queen's Birthday Honours in 1990, Dan was awarded the Order of Australia medal in recognition of his contribution to sport on Norfolk Island in particular the part he played in Norfolk Island becoming a member of the Commonwealth Association. This was an extremely proud moment for Dan and his family.

During his retirement Dan enjoyed his garden, his dog Tina, watching his beloved Roosters play footy on the TV and daily swims at Emily Bay. He was very interested in the Island's affairs and keenly followed Norfolk's progress towards self determination. He was a well known sight traveling on his scooter up and down New Cascade Road, often holding up traffic but always waving and smiling. On one of his trips to town Dan found a lantana bush was in his way. He promptly turned back home, grabbed his mattock and went back and dug out the bush.

This eulogy would not be complete without mentioning Dan's ability to tell jokes. He was still telling jokes to the nurses who cared for him in the last few weeks and the many wonderful visitors that called in to see him at the hospital. His family will never forget the one about Wally or the one about the Irishmen with the pigs. Whenever there was a lull in the conversation, you could count on hearing Dan say "Do you remember the one about Mick and Paddy, or did you hear the one about the Aussie, the Kiwi and the Yank? And the beauty of Dan's jokes was that you could never be sure where they were headed or what the punch line would be. But it would always be very funny.

Dan enjoyed excellent health for most of his life and passed away peacefully surrounded by his adoring wife and children. He will be sadly missed.

Thank You

The family would like to thank

- The manager, the doctors, nurses, Hen and staff at the Norfolk Island Hospital for your kind care of Dan.
- St. John Ambulance, in particular James and Lewis.
- The most generous Norfolk family who provided us with accommodation in Sydney.
- Everyone who has dropped off food & flowers, telephoned & sent cards.
- Aunty Marjie for her legendary pies.
- Those who have lent us vehicles.
- Diddles for the flowers.
- The ladies at The Usual Place for the beautiful wreathes.
- The pall bearers.
- The sexton, grave diggers and Tardy for driving the hearse.
- The Bumboras Ukulele Band.
- Cam, Ella & Holly for handing out the service sheets.
- Simone James for the music and Milt & Jan Bradley for the pa system.
- A special thanks to family & friends who have traveled to the island especially to attend the funeral, it means a great deal to us all.

And most of all, our heartfelt thanks to family & friends who have stayed close & supported us over the past weeks.

In Memoriam

In Loving Memory **Sheila Mary Grimshaw**

07/09/1945 - 28/08/2017

Time goes by but missing you doesn't. United with Thomas Livingstone Grimshaw 30/10/1922-04/09/1996.

Miss you

Brian, Blair, Isabelle and Samantha

