

Eulogy Scott

Mum and Dad

Fun in the 1940's after the war were spent either going to the beach or to dances. Mum and Dad first met at the Corrimal RSL dance when she was 17 and dad was 21. The music at these dances was usually a piano and drum duo.

According to Dad's version of events his best friend Curley Argue told him that he had asked Isabelle for a dance but she had said no. Apparently the unspoken rule was that you never said no. Dad said he would go and ask her for a dance but again she said no.

According to mum's version of events she could see this group of boys looking the girls over and deciding amongst themselves who they would ask to dance. She didn't like this so she said no again.

Not deterred Dad decided he would "fix her". He found out where she worked and waited for her outside on his motorbike. Well dad you must have made an impact because you were married on the 12th May 1951, two days after her 18th birthday, at the Presbyterian Church in Corrimal. The minister's name was memorable in its simplicity, Rev Alexander Alexander.

They both worked very hard and saved every penny. They would walk rather than catch a bus and dad also sold his motorbike. By 1955 they had a block of land and built a house with the help of Uncle Ron Johnston. I'm sure dad won't mind if we tell you that he had written "Ken loves Isabelle" on the chimney flashing. They had great neighbours with Bill and Essie Leitch and their two daughters Margaret and Helen. Mum and Dad were like the local Neighborhood Watch as they seemed to know everybody in the street.

Living with Grandparents

Mum and Dad had two children, Cherylyn in 1955 and Scott in 1962. We had a great childhood, full of the freedom of that era. We were allowed to play outside, walk to friends or go down to Corrimal. We were also spoilt by grandparents who lived next door who owned the local corner store. Mum and dad helped out with the shop when Nan and Pop Kerr went back to Scotland for a trip.

When Nan and Pop sold the shop, they moved in to a Granny Flat that they built adjoining our house. Mum and Nan had a stormy relationship at times but they were also very good friends. We went on holidays with grandparents and

great grandparents and thought that this is what everybody did. Somehow it all worked out most of the time. Many New Year's Eve were spent with family and friends at Gwandalan joining hands and singing Auld Lang Sign

Holidays

Mum and Dad loved to holiday. They would go up to Gwandalan nearly every holiday and stay at the block they purchased with Aunty Nancy and Uncle Neville. Camping to begin with, moving on up to a communal shed with an outside galley kitchen and a hand pump outside shower. It was not until 1972 that they built a house. Days were spent fishing, skiing, sailing and swimming. They made great friends at Gwandalan with Janice and Howard Cresdy along with their daughters Leanne and Sharon. Later they had great holidays with Janice and Terry. They were blessed with wonderful neighbours with Ron and Karen Chadwick and their children Adam and Kirrily. Phil and Megan Anderson have also been great neighbors and friends.

Mum and dad loved their bus holiday tour to Darwin in 1971 and this started a passion to see more of Australia.

When they retired, they had a caravan and went around Australia and many other trips. Lifetime friends were made with Merle and George Nixon from North Queensland.

Mum only had to mention the word holiday and dad would be down the travel agents. They have been to New Zealand, the Philippines with best friends Nola and Kenny Roberts, Vietnam, Fiji, Vanuatu with Alec and Bev, cruising with The Gwandy crew and even up to Charlottes pass with Janice and Terry.

One holiday they went up Goulburn on a fossicking trip with Lilly and Keith. They didn't find any gold but they did discover a pub.

Mum loved going to Coolangatta and Broadbeach. Mum was always a beach girl so if a holiday included a great beach and a chance not to cook, she loved it. For her 80th birthday we took her to Broadbeach and stayed at a fabulous house that had been a favourite of Johnny O'Keefe. The picture you will see later of mum laughing and surrounded by bubbles was at that house. Mum and Jan decided to have a spa with bubble bath but they also decided to have a wine. By the time they remembered the spa, they were to the ceiling.

Mum was always full of surprises. One big surprise was the day she came home and said she had just bought 113 Rothery Rd at an auction. Dad had to get a second job for that one. Mum also liked to dabble on the share market now and again. They were also helped with a win on the Opera House Lottery-3rd prize .

Dad loved mum with a true passion that lasted a lifetime. Of course, they had their moments as most couples do but their devotion when it really counted was wonderful. They were always a team that worked hard for what they had. Mum never wanted to be poor again so they saved and put money away so that Dad could retire when he was 58. They were fiercely protective of each other. They were allowed to complain about each other but no one else was allowed to say a word of criticism. We were hoping you could be here for your 70th Wedding Anniversary but it was not to be. Today we celebrate a life well lived and are thankful for a wonderful Wife, Mother, Grandmother, Great Grandmother and friend. What a great achievement.

- Boo- favourite child
- Horses