



Vale

Joanne Lisa Fraser

3rd January 1962 - 2nd March 2022

Joanne Lisa Fraser was born in Sydney the third daughter of William and Kathleen Kent on the third of January 1961, a sister for Kathy and Vivienne. She was such a good baby, everybody loved her because all she did was sleep and look cute.

A good student, Jo did well at every school she attended including for a brief time at NICS where she met her future husband David Fraser in 1970. At the “free” school in Ballina, NSW Jo really excelled. The children were accompanied to their classroom each morning by a loud rendition of the William Tell Overture, and encouraged to sit under a tree eating nuts and thinking their own thoughts if they felt inclined. A perfect scenario for Jo. She completed her education at St Mary’s Girls College, run by the Presentation Sisters in Lismore. This experience didn’t affect her much as she soon left home for Sydney to live with her sister Vivienne. A few weeks after Jo left home, two recruiting officers came to the house to arrange an interview with her and her parents, unbeknownst to them, she had applied to join the Defence Force.

In time, having moved to the South Coast of NSW, Jo married and produced five beautiful children... Kristie, Jessica, Nikki, Brooke and Daniel, who have cleverly turned her into Nanny Jo to thirteen wonderful grandchildren.

Over the years Jo travelled within Australia picking up work, starting as a nurse in Sydney then assistant hotel manager in Tasmania, a meat packer and warehouse assistant for Woolies in Cairns then bar manager in Gladstone and Mount Isa. Hospitality was Jo’s true forte. When she finally returned to Norfolk Island and a great job at Foodland, Jo enjoyed David’s discomfort as he came to her checkout more than once trying to get the courage to ask her out. As manager of

the Norfolk Island RSL, and later the Bowling Club Jo was in her element, she also worked at the Leagues Club where she had one of the best experiences of her life. It was when Manly defeated Melbourne in the NRL Grand Final 40-NIL.

Jo interacted with both the young and the old, making friends easily and always generous with her time. She loved Norfolk and her friends, the elderly on dar randah, her dog Fletch, her precious cats and remained loyal to her country and the Defence Force.

When her step father, Karl passed away in 2009, she changed her name to Davies to honour the only man she had ever known as a father. She also loved Uncle Bill as her own, another man she loved and honoured.

In 2005, months after Jo had reconnected with David, a friend of the family overheard a patron of the Golden Orb laughingly referring to her as “the lion tamer”. Her family were not at all impressed. This didn’t deter Jo; she wasn’t about to give him up... she made him part of the family and they eventually accepted him as one of theirs. They bought a house, Jo made it into a real home for David and an open house to anyone in need. They married at their home, joined by family and friends on 26th March 2010.

Jo then opened a café/ restaurant which she later had to close owing to ill health, which she faced with courage over the next few short years. David says Jo gave him the best 27 years of his life.

Jo saw those years as one hell of a ride but when away from the Island she always just wanted to get home to David.

Rest peacefully Jo.

*I Will Not Be Another Flower
Picked For My Beauty And Left To Die
I Will Be Wild And Hard To Find
And Impossible To Forget*

- Erin Van Uren

Thank you

David, Kate and all of Jo’s family would like to say a sincere and heartfelt thank you to:

Shane, the grave diggers, the pall bearers, Tardy, the ladies who organized flowers for the wreaths, posies and the mound, Tim for a lovely service and the eulogy, Jodie for the programmes, Liam & Nate, everyone who called or dropped in with food, flowers and comfort, those who helped to organize Jo’s farewell, and everyone who came to say goodbye. Words can’t describe how grateful we are.

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