

Vale

John Charles Buffett 'Beef'

4th May 1946 - 15th January 2016

On Wednesday, 20th January 2016 at the Kingston Cemetery, the family and his many friends, gathered to pay their last respects to John 'Beef' Buffett. The service was conducted by Rev. Bruce Ballantine-Jones of the Church of England.

After the Opening Prayer the Hymn 'In the Sweet Bye and Bye' led by Trent Christian was sung and this was followed by Messages from the Family. These

were read by Beef's brother Alan 'Kissard' and came from Vanita and Brendon on the Gold Coast; from Levina and Miles in England.

"Just on another note " Alan continued "on behalf of all members of Beef's family I offer our heartfelt thanks for your support, assistance and love that has been shown to us, and particularly to Beef, over the last two and a half years. Thank you yorlye"

Mimosa 'Mim' Mulvogue then gave the following Eulogy to her father:- "John Buffett was myse Dad and also Dad to Jacques and Audra. Yorlye know him as Beef, Beetle, Brudda, Unc and Uncle Beef. Whatever the relationship, we all know him as a man who was full of life and incredibly curious about the world around him. He was bright, enthusiastic, loved to socialise and was more than a little bit cheeky. He loved teasing people and easily charmed his way into hearts. It seems everyone who knew him has at least one unique and special story about a time with him.

Born in Sydney on the 4th of May 1946 Dad grew up on Norf'k. He was the son of Alice Maude Buffett and George "Hackett" Buffett. Brother to Alan "Kissard" Buffett and Elaine Buffett. Proud father to Jacques, myself and Audra. Loving Pa to Bona and Mikotaj. Unc to Vanita, Dwain, Levina, Alana, Miles and Eddie.

Dad's working life reflects his love of adventure and the outdoors. In the early days he did quite a bit of work down Kingston restoring the convict era buildings and infrastructure, also becoming an amateur archaeologist on digs.

(continued overleaf)



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**Contact Gabrielle Walls (nee Tavener) for further information or to arrange an appointment:
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John Charles Buffett 'Beef' - continued

Though I hear he didn't just dig up artefacts – as a joke he sneakily buried some mystery artefacts from other Pacific islands. A plastic medical skull also made an appearance in a Kingston trench, just to keep sullun on their toes.

He also worked in the Northern Territory of Australia doing mineral exploration, taking advantage of it to see the country. One adventure had Dad and some friends load a car on the Ghan train and travel from Alice Springs to Adelaide. From there they had the car unloaded and road tripped all around Southern Australia.

He was also in Bougainville, Papua New Guinea working in a copper mine as a plant operator and in construction. It was here that he further developed a great respect and love for Islander culture and began to accumulate his vast collection of artefacts that became his pride and joy in his purpose built show room.

Most recently he's worked in the Forestry department and on the cargo ships with some of his best mates, no doubt getting up to and causing mischief right up to the day he stopped working.

Dad was undeniably a people person – he thrived on meeting sullun from different cultures and learning about their traditions, food and arts. His eyes always lit up when he larna us 'bout et. He kept close connections with people throughout Norf'k. On childhood visits to the island Dad would always bring my brother Jacques and I around to see old sullun and keep those connections alive.

He was also diligent in staying connected with friends overseas – we'd often hear him late at night or early in the morning chatting on the phone to friends in Canada or the U.S long before the Internet blossomed and made staying in touch easy.

Dad was an extremely creative person. We're all familiar with his incredible woodwork pieces. His attention to detail is legendary and his woodwork takes pride of place in his show room and many homes around the world.

Dad loved his family and children greatly. He was always so enthusiastic about spending time with us kids, regularly taking us on outings to larna us 'bout our Norf'k culture, history, wildlife and environment. He never failed to send a card on special days, or

regular Norf'k papers, postage stamps and just about every published book on Norf'k and Pitcairn.

He also had a gentle and caring side. I've lost count of the times he has picked me a hibiscus from his garden and given it to me as a little surprise to brighten my day. We all know how fond he was of his pet cow "Girly" and his parrot "Jimmy Buffett".

One request Dad made was that there is not a big wake. Instead, I suggest in your own time play a Jimmy Buffett or Beach Boys song and wherever you may be, remember him fondly; ours Dad, your brother, Unc or mate and pause for a moment to remember all those unforgettable times with him.

We know he will be greatly missed by everyone who knew and loved him. We thank you all for being here today, for the incredible generosity that he received over the last few years and the heartfelt support shown to us during this difficult time."

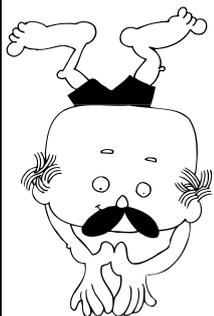
Beef had specially requested that one of the Hymns to be sung at his funeral was "Gethsemane" written by Driver Christian and Reverend George Hunn Nobbs and this was led by Rick Kleiner.

The Bible reading from Ecclesiastes Chapter 3, verses 1 - 8 "A Time for Everything" was then read by Kissard Buffett and his daughter Alana. Rev. Bruce Ballantine-Jones used the words of this reading as the basis of his message "Words of Hope".

Prayers, the Committal, the Lord's Prayer, Blessing and the singing of the Pitcairn Anthem - 'Come Ye Blessed" brought the service to its conclusion.

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