

It will be a long time before the people on Norfolk Island get over the sudden shock and grief of the death of our beloved "Joe Jenks", Norfolk's popular Customs Officer.

Joseph Albert Jenkins sat down in a chair at his home on Thursday evening at about 8.30 pm (his wife Kirsti was attending a Red Cross meeting) and quietly passed away.

Born on Norfolk Island on 13th November 1931, Joe was son of John Lumpkin Jenkins and his wife Flora Catherine (nee Quintal).

After leaving School Joe went into his father's shop - Jenkins' Grocery Store - which was on the site of the present Ferny Lane Flats - the now "Bounty Lodge" was the family home. In 1952 he joined the Merchant Navy serving for some years. He then joined a Norwegian Iron Ore ship the "Adour" where he met Kirsti Johnson who was the Radio Officer on the ship.

Joe and Kirsti returned to Norfolk in 1959 and were married in St. Barnabas' Chapel on 19th September 1959.

They went back to Norway but returned to Norfolk in 1963 to settle down in their home in Collins Head Road. They have 3 children, John, who is now an apprentice in AWA, Sydney, Arne and Ruth both at school on Norfolk.

Working for a while with the Administration, Joe left to take up a position with Martin's Agencies, working with the then Manager, Frank Thompson. He eventually joined the Norfolk Island Customs in 1966 and at the time of his death, was Chief Customs Officer.

Joe had just taken up bowls and returned last Monday after an enjoyable week's bowling on Lord Howe Island, playing in the "Supply Fours", Tournament. Apart from this sport and his love of dancing, Joe has taken a very active part in community affairs. He was a member of the Church of England Committee for many years, was President of the Parents and Citizens Association for quite a while and a President of the Royal Far West Childrens Health Scheme.

A great "leg puller" Joe endeared himself to all who came in contact with him. He was a family man, always prepared to lend a hand to anyone in need. He was very proud of his family and a loving brother to his sisters Dorothy (Mrs. Macrae) and Glynn Jenkins.

To dear Kirsti and her family, Dorothy and her family, Glynn, other relatives of the families, we extend our heartfelt sympathies in their great sorrow, which is felt also by the whole community.