



*Vale*

## Jude Eric Charles Wakefield

Family and friends gathered on Sunday, on the Gold Coast to farewell Jude, the following Eulogy was delivered by Liz.

“Jude Eric Charles Wakefield in true fashion entered this world 6 weeks early and kept us all on our toes from his first moments. Jude stopped breathing and sent the whole Norfolk Island Hospital into a huge panic.

Always keen for a party Jude decided New years Eve was the date he'd arrive. Born to Mark Wakefield and Kyla Blackwell in 2003. Big brother Bayley was 5 when Jude arrived.

Being New Years Eve and living on Norfolk Island meant that we had to organise a medevac but being New Years Eve made it hard. The neo natal team was in Melbourne and the preemie plane was in Queensland, we had to get them together fly to Norfolk and pick up Kyla, Mark, and Jude.

The biggest ward at the hospital was completely emptied ready for the team to arrive and take over.

A lasting picture for all those who were there was the doctor just sitting there. Bent over tiny baby Jude with a manual respirator for 6 long hours, puffing tiny little puffs into his tiny little lungs until the neo natal team arrived. Bayley stayed on Norfolk and then made the trip back to Australia all by himself at 5yrs old. This began the whole family's beginning back on the Gold Coast.

Jude and Kyla moved back to Norfolk in 2008 where Jude attended Banyan Park Play Centre and then Norfolk Island Central School.

Jude was well known to be the class clown and general stirrer, always making everyone crack up and spreading that beautiful big smile everywhere...

He was always “ama-ula” as we say on Norfolk or clumsy, tripping over his own feet. The many scars, stitches and visits to hospital are a legacy to his many run ins with hard surfaces and sharp objects.

Be it old cars down a valley, nails sticking out of pallet that they thought would be a good idea to use as a jump at the scooter ramp, tripping over things left on the ground.



### New Zealand to Norfolk Island

NEW ZEALAND VESSEL	New Zealand	Australia
	Auckland	Norfolk
Southern Tiare 38	18-Apr	22-Apr
Southern Tiare 39	TBC	TBC
Southern Tiare 40	TBC	TBC
Southern Tiare 41	Sep 2022	Sep 2022

### Australia to Norfolk Island

Melbourne		Australia Sydney		Brisbane		NEW ZEALAND VESSEL	New Zealand Auckland	Australia Norfolk
Hansa Bitburg 2207	28-Mar	Hansa Bitburg 2207	30-Mar	Oocl Busan 509N	15-Mar	Southern Tiare 38	18-Apr	22-Apr
**	*	**	-	Louise 378N	28-Mar	Southern Tiare 39	TBC	TBC
**	*	**	*	**	*	Southern Tiare 40	TBC	TBC
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TBC		TBC		TBC		Southern Tiare 42	Nov 2022	Nov 2022

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### ***Jude Eric Charles Wakefield - continued***

Jude was a keen sportsman, an excellent scooter rider when he was quite young and started playing League at age 5. At 13 years old he was selected to be on the rep team that played against the Coomera Cutters on Norfolk and then a year later he was awarded a scholarship to go to Coomera for 6 weeks to train with the Cutters here on the Gold Coast.

At age 10 he represented Norfolk in Fiji, playing Tennis.

His mum found a little note, the other day that he'd written when he was about 9. Saying "everyone should play sport, because it's good and healthy for your body, it can be a team building experience, and it stops people playing video games".

For Jude's whole childhood when his mum would ask what he wanted to do when he grew up, every time he would answer that he wanted to be a footy player. He moved to the Gold Coast when he was 14, not long after he moved, he rang his mum to say he left it too late to become a professional player.

When Jude was in year 6 he went on year 6 tour which involved team building camps, adventures, sailing, all the fun things. Completing year 6 tour he then flew up to his brother and father for 2 weeks then flew to New Zealand for the birth of his sister Eliza Jane. When he was asked what the best thing about Yr 6 tour was, he answered "getting a baby sister. Such was his love for his family.

Jude was known by everyone for his winning smile that lit up any space he was in, that little smirk, that contagious laugh.

Jude's quick replies to any and every comment or argument were next level and upon reflection he was wise beyond his years and often right. Leaving us speechless to return fire.

Jude was a family man, and his family always came first.

Every day on Norfolk, after school Jude would walk to the shop in town where his Mum and Grandad work. He'd sit on Grandad's knee and talk about his day. When he was about 17 and pushing 6ft in height and on Norfolk for a holiday he sat on Grandad's knee and suddenly realised how big he was and maybe too big to sit on his knee anymore.

Jude loved kids. He was always kind, thoughtful, fun and patient with any kids that were drawn to this radiant young man.

He especially loved Eliza and was the most amazing big brother spending time with her playing games, reading books, watching movies and just spending time. And just as importantly, Eliza loved her Judey.

Grandma Jane remembers fondly her time looking after Jude in NZ while they were waiting for Eliza to be born spending the days chasing skate parks and enjoying one on one time together. She recalls another time driving with him to Wanganui and the car heater wouldn't work. The outside temperature was -1°C, they were all absolutely freezing and Jude just couldn't believe it.

A memory that Grandma (Lesley) sometimes talks about is when she would take Jude en goe rumma. Jude

lowe eaten a hihi. Sometimes Jude would be so desperate to eat one that she would break some open with a rock and he would eat them raw. As he got older he didn't enjoy hihi's at all.

Kyla and Jude had a beautiful 9 years together living on Norfolk. Doing all the amazing things Norfolk has to offer with the freedom of a young island boy.

Jude thought it was unfair that Anson had a beach named after him, and so it was decided that "China mans" a little beach behind the old wind mill off the Norfolk Golf Course, should be renamed "Jude Bay" and so it has remained for our families ever since then.

Every night after dinner, until Jude was about 11. Just as his Mum would want to settle down to watch TV Jude would insist that she threw a ball to the other side of the room so he could run up, catch it and score a try. Then after that at 8pm, the TV would go off and they would play a board game or cards. Kyla's lounge room was like a battlefield with Martial arts, footy practice, wrestle mania and any form of full contact insanity more often than not resulting in blood noses all round. Anson remembers Jude's first day at school resulted in him getting a detention due to their full contact well practiced wrestling, the teachers thought they were having a fight.

Jude's favourite character was always spiderman, he was often dressed in his spiderman costume. One time he thought if he put maple syrup on his hands it would make them really sticky so he could stick to the walls just like spiderman, much to the joy of his mother.

A couple of memories down at Kath and Matts place.

When Jude was about 7, he was wondering what was for dinner. Kath told him that they were having Pizza, and they were going to have Jude pizza, and 'would he be OK to get chopped up on pizza?' his eyes grew wide, and he silently walked outside. After about half an hour Lil went out to look for him and he was sitting on the trampoline bawling, with his great big open mouth cry, saying that 'he didn't want to be eaten!!' .....it took a little while to calm him down.

Jude always did things in excess and was always keen for a challenge. Matt had a bird's eye chilli bush, and the challenge was set to Anson and Jude as to who could eat a whole chilli and keep it down.

Anson got as far as just nibbling the end before he bowed out, Jude not only put the whole thing in his mouth but chewed it up and swallowed it. Downed the yoghurt that we had ready and tried as hard as he could to keep it down. Sweating, crying almost screaming.... then he ran straight for the door and power chucked, everywhere!!!"

The following memories were delivered by Mark...

"After years of living on Norfolk Island Jude had decided to move to the Gold Coast when he was 14. Being a rugby league kid, Jude had decided that Keebra Park high school was the school for him, Keebra Park was renowned for being a tough school to crack into and having not attended Yr. 7 there I thought that this might deter Jude from trying to make the rugby league academy, however this did not bother Jude in any way at all And I remember dropping him off for his First day at Keebra at the front gate and I got out of the car and I

*(continued overleaf)*

### ***Jude Eric Charles Wakefield - continued***

said to him. "you gonna be alright son?" and in typical Jude fashion he looked at me, flashed that big amazing smile slapped me up and said "I got this Dad" and true to his word, Jude never looked back from that day on. His football skills weren't what made him his first group of friends at Keebra, but it was actually Jude's standing/ranking of FORTNITE that made him his first group of friends at this tough school. Jude participated in the Keebra Park Rugby League program for 2 years and played school football and club foot ball with Southport Tigers and between Keebra and south port is where Jude found some of his best mates which are here in attendance today.

Jude's love of league saw him represent the school in Keebra A's and B's and lead him to tour NZ with the South Port tigers on a 4-game mission. After 2 years at Keebra Jude decided to move on to the MOB academy, it was here at MOB where Jude started to become a young man that knew his path and what he wanted to achieve. This path eventually led him to an apprenticeship as a shop fitter, which he absolutely adored until he almost lost his thumb with a rotary US sander. This resulted in Jude having a month off with work cover where he decided that spending time body surfing and lounging around at the beach with Tavyna was more important than doing his recovery.

When informing CSF of his passing Jo was completely shocked and had said how at Jude's interview his smile and his positive personality were the things that she admired most. In actual fact Jude had basically got his apprenticeship through his massive beaming smile and winning personality. After leaving CSF Jude had decided that marketing was the way for him to go.

Once again Jude had secured this new marketing job through his beaming smile which we all know and loved over his lifetime.

There are not too many funny stories to remember but there are a couple of days where he went to school with mismatched coloured shoes, and decided to blame it all on Bayley which we all know was untrue, in actual fact it was his own laziness of not wanting to untie his shoelaces. Another funny story of Jude's was a recent disagreement with Tav where the power went out and Jude sat in Tamara's car for 4 hours to keep his phone charged so he could talk to Tav. Anyone that came to check that he was OK, was quickly ushered away, even when they were trying to let him know the power was back on.

Jude found love in Tavyna. They were always together, swimming, sunbaking, learning to cook and plenty of firsts which I will leave to your imagination. Tav, Jude found comfort in you and your arms and when he was with you, he knew what he wanted to become, and you helped him achieve that. Jude loved your family and for that I will always be grateful.

Jude's caring and kind nature was evident in any interactions he had, regardless of their age. Children, his peers, adults, or elderly. Jude always had time for each and every one of them. Taking the time to talk, to listen, to interact. Often times giving people he hardly knew great big Jude hugs and always wishing people a safe

journey and asking them to text or call when they had arrived safely at their destination.

Everybody who knew Jude knew the most important thing to him was family.

His mum his grandmothers, his Grandad, his sister, his Uncle Al, his Auntie Summer and of course his big brother Bayley were all his passion.

The love of Jude's family and his friends cannot be denied, and I think it shows here today. If Jude was still here today with us, I think everyone would agree that he would be cuddling everybody equally, slapping up all the boys, and making sure that everyone here today was getting along. I just cannot say it enough that Jude was a family boy with a big, beautiful heart and an even bigger beautiful smile.

Over the last 12 months Jude had found a friend and step mum in Tamara who he could confide in and was a friend. 2 stepsisters in Gabby and Evie and a stepbrother in Noah who he adored. And I know that all of you adored him.

A couple of Jude's fondest memories and proudest achievements would be the arrival of his

\*Little sister Eliza, who he absolutely adored.

\*The first car that Jude purchased, his whip, his black Suzuki Swift.

Ever the thrill seeker, when Jude received his first paycheck all he wanted to do was spend it on something cool. So, he took Tav and himself para gliding.

I think one of the biggest things Jude wished was to live with his brother Bayley. While this may have started off well, I can assure you that this was not all smooth sailing, with a lot of finger pointing and pushing and shoving to see who could be the bigger man, tongue in cheek.

One thing that cannot be denied is the love and the bond that you 2 boys share as brothers. Despite your love hate relationship, you were always there for one another, and I will forever be proud to be your Father.

Jude had big plans for his future, he had them written and prepared. He was 5 days off returning to his Island home to regroup for 6 months or so and then come back to the Gold Coast to start on those plans.

Every parents worst nightmare came true 11 days ago. 18 year olds misadventures and Jude's infamous clumsiness will not see his plans come to fruition. And we find ourselves here, together sharing the love and memories of a beautiful young man and saying goodbye for the last time

In closing, son you have left a hole that can never ever be replaced. Your smile lit up a room before you even entered. I will never forget our treasured footy memories with you drinking beers while still 17 and our body surfing sessions that would go until the sun set. You have touched the lives of everybody that you crossed paths with, and I still expect you to walk through the door with your hat backwards, no shirt and ask me "What's for dinner Daddio?" I love you son. You will never be forgotten, you show heaven that rich beautiful big smile and you tell everybody up there just to ...."Relax and Chill" May you rest easy Jude.

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