



#### VALE

Kevin James Olsson, aged 27, only son of Jim and Doreen of Cascades, went into the Norfolk Island Hospital to have surgery to his nose on Tuesday, 4th May.

On Thursday afternoon, word came through from New Zealand where Kevin had been quickly conveyed for emergency treatment, that he had not pulled through.

The island community was stunned. The shock is still with us: quite apart from his parents and his two sisters and their families, each and every person who knew Kevin is sad at heart.

From what we understand, Kevin suffered a cardiac arrest during the operation and as the New Zealand plane was on the tarmac, he was hastily taken out on emergency with his father and the specialist accompanying him.

Doreen flew out on the next plane and she and Jim had the extremely sad experience of arranging for Kevin to be brought home for burial on Norfolk Island.

The funeral service took place in the glorious garden surroundings of the family home at Cascades last Sunday afternoon, the Rev. David Reay officiating, with interment at the Kingston cemetery following.

Kevin was honoured by one of the largest funerals seen on Norfolk Island - local and visiting bowlers, together with members of local sporting associations forming a Guard of Honour at Kingston.

Born on 27th April 1955, Kevin attended the Norfolk Island Central School, finishing his schooling at Wagga High School.

He joined Burns Philp Travel Office in 1974 and in 1980 took up a post in the Norfolk Island Administration where he was at the time of his death.

He was an outstanding sportsman and represented Norfolk on many occasions.

Before his operation he had commenced playing in the Bounty Bowling Tournament - his first - and his inherent sporting prowess had come to the fore on that first day of play. He was a good basketball player, good footballer and represented Norfolk Island at the Mini Games at Honiara in 1981 in tennis.

It was at golf that he really excelled, representing Norfolk at the South Pacific Games in Suva in 1979. His golfing career started at the age of 13 when he won the B-grade Foursomes with Don Adams; in 1969 won the A-grade Foursomes with the late Ben Christian; 1970 won the A-grade Foursomes with his father and in 1981 won the A-grade Foursomes with Dennis Sterling. He was Club Champion 1979/80 and in other competitions had defeated visiting professionals and leading amateurs.

As the Rev. David Reay said, not only was he good at sport, he was at the same time, a good sport and will be remembered by all who were touched by his presence, his friendship and his regard for his fellow man.

To Jim and Doreen, to Jan and Millie and their families, we hope that the following poem (together with the photo - and we all know how difficult it was to get him on film!) given to us for insertion, will convey to you what we all felt for Kevin - and help you, in some way, in the days ahead.

#### TO KEVIN:

Goodbye, dear friend, you will be missed.  
 From the turmoil of this world, you have  
 soared, to be free.  
 You have given me so much - your smile, your  
 peace of mind, your laughter, your kindness,  
 your thoughtfulness, your heart, your happiness.  
 Just being there - to try and play the game.  
 Maybe you win, maybe you lose - but you were  
 a stayer.  
 Memories, what memories. There will always be  
 a tear in my heart. I am proud to have known  
 you and thank you for the gifts you gave me.  
 You gave of yourself. I loved you for that.  
 Goodbye, Kevin.

**SQUASH PLAYERS** - please note that there will not be any squash competition held next Wednesday evening although there will be a social night for those wishing to play.

The competition will re-commence on Wednesday, 26th May.

**NORFOLK ISLAND ACCOMMODATION PROPRIETORS ASSOCIATION** advise that their office bearers for this year are:

President, Rex Barrett; Deputy President Allan Payne and Secretary/Treasurer, Ellen Tanner.