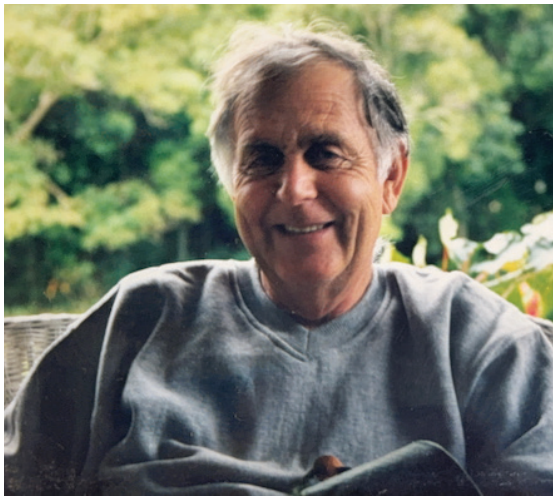

VALE

Peter William Woodward

8 June 1934 – 6 August 2025

Peter William Woodward was born on 8 June 1934 to Harry and Dorris Woodward in North Head, Manly. He enjoyed an unfettered childhood, developing an early love for fishing and hunting.

In his youth, Pete attended primary school in Manly West. When he was just 8 years old, Sydney Harbour was bombed, leaving on him a powerful impression and a vivid memory. Following these events, Pete and his younger brother Phillip were sent to Crookwell in the Southern Tablelands, where they lived with the local train station master until the war came to an end. After the war, he returned to the Northern Beaches of Sydney to attend Manly Boys High School. On weekends, he helped his father and grandfather build a stone boat shed in North Harbour. It's still standing today — even more impressively, it is the last remaining boat shed on the harbour, now protected by a heritage listing.

At just 18, Pete was conscripted for the Korean War and became one of Prime Minister Menzies' 'chocolate soldiers' (an affectionate term for inexperienced conscripts). He trained at Williamtown near Newcastle as a landing barge operator. However, Pete's service did not eventuate, as the war ended in 1953, shortly before he completed his training. This mirrored his father's experience, who was also spared service in World War II due to his importance domestically as a radio engineer.

After the war, Pete commenced his career with a short stint as a clerk with the New South Wales Police. Not long afterwards, he secured a travelling role with the State Weights and Measures Department, which led him on countless adventures across the countryside. Following these early roles, it was inevitable that he would join his father in the family business, Woodward's Radio.

(continued overleaf)

Peter William Woodward - continued

The business flourished, and eventually, Woodward's Radio partnered with four other retailers to form the buying group Retravision. Pete became the company director in the late 1960s and early 1970s. In 1975, Pete and his father stepped aside and sold their shares in the business. Pete planned to move to Norfolk Island to fish and grow vegetables.

In matters of love, after a chance meeting and a fondness for her peculiar accent, Pete married Aileen Francis Douran (Prail) on 24 June 1961 in Seaforth, Balgowlah. Prail and her best friend, Jaqui Sargent were both training in general nursing and obstetrics. Jacqui was dating Pete's brother Phillip, and she introduced the pair. The rest, as they say, is history. Soon after their marriage, they expanded their family with their son Richard, born in 1962, and daughter Lisa, born in 1964.

With a beautiful young family, a sharp business mind, and a sense of adventure, Pete moved his family to Norfolk Island in 1976. The family settled into an old island home, 'Kitty Otts', where Richard lives to this day. Two years later, the family moved out to Bullocks Hut Road, Anson Bay. This is where Pete proudly started his expansive orchard, growing mango trees, avocado trees, and as many vegetables as he could to share with his family and the island.

This decision was courageous, as Pete's first visit to the island with Prail was quite eventful. Coincidentally, their trip coincided with Pete's birthday — which also happened to be Baunti Dae! Prail watched on and laughed as sullun playfully threw him into the touwn drain to help him celebrate.

Upon his arrival to Norfolk, Pete initially worked for Rick Irvine at Irvine's Hardware Store (now Norfolk Island Building Supplies) and then for Burns Philp Shipping Line. With his entrepreneurial spirit, he opened his namesake store, Pete's Place, on Norfolk Island — a welcome development from selling crockpots out of Nornie's shed! Over the years, 'Norfolk's Most Interesting Store' (as Pete's Place is affectionately known) rode the duty-free boom in Norfolk's heyday, has been extended many times and has sponsored numerous community events. Pete was a natural salesman; you never realised you needed a German knife until Pete served it to you in his shop! He also treasured his close friendship and business partnership with Peter Meers, with whom he expanded the store. Later on, in 2004, with Peter and Lisa, Pete acquired Norfolk Island Building Supplies. He was passionate about bringing down the cost of building supplies for the locals.

At 64 years old, Pete suffered a major heart attack and was told he wasn't going to survive. As it turned out, it wasn't his time. He had so much more to give! Pete not only survived but thrived, with the help of doctors on the island and in Sydney. Pete continued to work six days a week well into his eighties; serving customers and talking to people in the shop was his passion. He was also extremely passionate about building a jetty for Norfolk and its people. Pete commissioned tidal research and secured land at Ball Bay with hopes of building there in the future.

True to his reputation as a keen outdoorsman, Pete and a few friends founded the Norfolk Island Clay Target Association. As President, he helped build the clubhouse and grew its membership. A talented shooter, he represented Norfolk Island at the 1986 Commonwealth Games in Edinburgh as well as multiple Pacific Games. Pete was also a keen fisherman, spending much of his life at sea skippering his four boats, Iwi Dot (named after his mother) and Sunbeam I, II, and III. Sullun often described Pete's crew as 'Dad's Navy' with the original members comprising of Jack Mack and Jimmy Olsson.

His love of fishing and shooting extended beyond Norfolk Island to New Zealand, where he enjoyed many holidays hunting ducks and fishing off the beach near Kaitaia. With an eye to the future, he purchased a pine plantation in New Zealand and exported the timber back to Norfolk, which was used to build many local homes — as if there weren't already enough pine trees here! All of his NZ adventures were shared with his good mate and neighbour, Brett Irwin.

Pete became a grandfather in 1995 when Shae was born, and again a few years later with Monet. He was always very doting on his granddaughters, telling them how beautiful they looked, even when chatting over the phone! He showered them with love, as well as gifts of fresh fish, avocados, green beans and the occasional Toblerone. However, Pete did have a reputation for being a bit untidy, and the girls refused to travel in his truck because it stunk of fish!

We will all remember Pete for some of his favourite catchphrases. He would often check in with you: "Everything under control?" and humourously describe himself as "Pure as the driven snow." To his family and friends, he truly was.

Pete is survived by his wife Prail, brother Phillip, daughter Lisa, son Richard, and granddaughters Shae and Monet. The family would like to thank all of the dedicated hospital staff, gravediggers, Sexton, wreath makers, the team at the Gun Club, and all those in the community who helped the family put Pete to rest. Prail would especially like to thank the Island and everyone for their smiles and sympathy that she has been shown.