



George Edwin Anderson O.A.M.

Affectionately known as Puss

7 December 1938 - 19 October 2018.

George Edwin Anderson, affectionately known as Puss, was born on Norfolk Island in 1938 at Bishops Court. He would have celebrated his 80th birthday in December.

He met his wife Patricia at the Paradise Hotel when she came to Norfolk Island on holiday in 1964. It was love at first sight and 5 weeks later they were married.

Puss and Pat have 3 children and 6 grandchildren and they are all with him here today.

He was the youngest of three boys: Jack, Leo and George ~ sons of Murray & Daisy (Geggie) Anderson.

Their family home was in Taylors Road in the area known as 'Stormy Paddock'. Like most island families, in those early days life was hard ~ living off the land, growing what you could, keeping a few pigs and catching fish. Puss would say how they sometimes used to walk to Beef Steak to catch rock fish and pick a hihi, just to have something to eat when it was too naisy a weather to go out orna water.

Dem nawa had much clorh and his first pair of shoes was handed down by one of his brothers when dems leag get too big!

Like a lot of island families they grew beans for export and would spend many hours with Murray 'in a fance' pulling beans... en something he tull he nor mess! As a young boy he would spend his time when he nor ina fance with his brothers and Murray, cutton about with his mates; Peter & Huggy Welsh and Steggs. We have only been told some of the things dem boys bin usa get up to but you could write a book orn et.

In the outbreak of the second World War, the New Zealand army set up their camp next to Puss' family home where the South Pacific Resort Hotel is now situated. Puss has always loved cats and would venture over the fence with his cat to the army camp, and the troops gave him his nickname "Puss" (or so he tull).

(continued overleaf)

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George Edwin Anderson O.A.M. - continued

When he was sixteen Puss went to New Zealand where he worked as a bricky's labourer for a few years. On returning to Norfolk he worked in Charles Welsh's butchery. He then worked at Government House, the Whaling Station and later at the Fish Factory.

In 1961 Puss joined the Commonwealth Department of Works at Kingston. In 1966 he trained as a linesman in Australia. In 1972 Puss was elected as a member of the 5th Norfolk Island Council, and re-elected to the 6th. He was chosen to train at The Australian Counter Disaster College at Mt Macedon. Upon his return he was appointed as Norfolk Island's Disaster Co-Ordinator and formatted the first disaster plan for our island.

He took on the role of Restoration Works Manager and he was instrumental in developing this area into what is now called KAVHA. He held this position for 35 years until his retirement in 2010. Puss was devoted to this area and was often sought out for his wealth of historical information and colourful stories. He was dedicated to KAVHA and the team of men who worked with him and their outstanding achievements of which he was justifiably proud.

He worked in lighterage, where he later became Lighterage Manager.

Puss was also a good sportsman and in his younger years played tennis, cricket, squash and golf. He also loved rugby league and played for many years with the United Football club. He was a long time Parramatta supporter.

Puss was involved with many organisations in his life ~ Cubs & Scouts, Fishing Club and other committees. Until recently, he & Pat managed the Growers Co-op. There were many community celebrations and activities supported by the silent and methodical hand of this man.

In 2003 he was the recipient of the Centenary Medal for his contribution to the heritage management of KAVHA and the community of Norfolk Island and in 2006 he received an O.A.M.

Puss had three great passions; fishing, Phillip Island and growing vegies.

He always loved fishing and whenever the weather was good he would be out on the water. In the early years with his brothers, Short Graham, Marty Quintal and Didda and later with Pelly Evans and Jim Griffiths until his hip replacement made it too difficult for him to continue.

Puss loved Phillip Island and would spend as much time as he could out there with his mates. He had a lot to do with the building of the original part of the fishermans hut. In the words of the late Owen Evans, 'Puss you out ya dar much I think I gwen call you a Phillip Islander'!

Another great passion of Puss' was growing vegies. He would spend all his time in the garden. He carried his passion into retirement, and he & Pat would be up at dawn packing vegies for the roadside stall and delivering to various retail places. At a time in life when most men's gardens would get a little smaller, Puss' garden seemed to get bigger! He was on his

tractor just 8 weeks ago motoring between the garden he maintained on Mike King's property at Hundred Acres and his garden at home. When not gardening he would be making chutneys and pickled onions.

It was only recently that his health deteriorated and upon going to Brisbane for a checkup he was diagnosed with a rare heart disease which slowed him right down and he was not the same after this. It was hard to see a man who was so active not be able to do what he so loved to do.

Puss lived the life he wanted to live and it was a full life. He was a proud Norfolk Islander to the bone and was very set in his ways. For Puss there was only 'black & white', no grey areas. His opinion was at times contentious but it was always honest and practical.

He loved Norfolk, he loved the way of life, he loved his family, especially his grandchildren; Ella, Shahana, Femi, Jannica, Louis & Harry. They will each tell you that he made them feel special in a way that only 'Pop' can do.

He will always be in our hearts.

Thank You

Pat, Kane, Fiona, Clare & families would like to express their sincere gratitude for the help, support and love shown to us all. His passing was too soon and far too quick.

To those who supported our family until our return home - thank you.

To the Norfolk Island hospital staff, St Johns Ambulance, the Medivac team, Royal Brisbane Hospital, Burnt Pine Travel, the Sexton, gravediggers, wreathmakers, Dids Evans, pallbearers, the hearse driver, Chris & the Lions Club for the PA system, the Randall family for handing out the sheets, Jos for the Reading and David Buffett for the service.

Norfolk's way of showing care and compassion is so very special.

Many thanks yorlye!



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