



Vera Knapton

16th June 1936 - 9th May 2020

Vera Agnes was born on 16 June, 1936, in Braemar, Scotland, to Mary and Charles MacDonald. She was the 6th child and youngest daughter of 8 siblings. When Vera left school, she worked as a nanny and housekeeper for several prominent families in the district, once even working at a castle in Edinburgh.

The family left Scotland in 1956 for Wellington, New Zealand, and Vera and her sister, Sylvia moved to Grey Lynn, before the rest of the family shifted North to Auckland.

Vera began work at Dominion Motors, which is where she met Bill Knapton, (Wiggy), a young Norfolk Islander, and they married in August 1961. They had 4 children, Fiona, born in 1962, Karen, in 1963, Fletcher, in 1964, and Christopher in 1969. The young family made their home in Te Atatu North, and once the kids were at school, Vera began work at the local gin distillery, and later at Totara Court Aged Care Home. When the kids finished school and were all working, Wiggy said to Vera, "it's time to go", and she said "where"? Wiggy said "back to Norfolk" - the year was 1989.

On arrival here, Vera began housekeeping jobs, until Ann Webb became aware that Vera had qualifications to work in Aged Care, and so began more than 10 years of happy employment at the hospital. She was well respected by employees, and made friends with many staff and residents alike. Always fun loving, earned Vera the nickname "Lovey", and she was known to family as "Scotty". She never lost her Scottish accent, and on a visit to Norfolk, Leigh's granddaughter Keely, aged 4, whispered — "Grandma, I can't understand Auntie Vera, she talks funny!" Vera also learned to drive once she got settled on Norfolk, got her own car, and from then there was no stopping her — she was in the car and on the road all the time — she loved to drive all about on Norfolk.

Once Vera retired, she kept a very social link with her many friends, particularly Sunday morning breakfasts with Harry and Paddy, Rhonda, Darlene, Ian, Margaret and others.

Vera loved to travel, making several trips to visit family in Scotland, Fiona and Martin and grandchildren

Sarah and Dane in Germany, and she and Wiggy visited France, Italy and Switzerland, staying with Louise, and Fiona's family.

Vera loved the snow, sledging with the grandchildren in particular.

The past couple of years, Vera has suffered some health problems, however, she maintained her grace and sense of humour, although at times she wasn't the social butterfly she had been.

We all have many happy memories of Vera as a wife, Mum, Grandmother to Sarah and Dane, Ethan and Briar, Great Grandmother to Rosalie, and friend to many. Vera passed away peacefully on Saturday 9 May, at the Norfolk Island Hospital.

(continued overleaf)



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Saturday	9.30 to 12.30

We practice social distancing and COVID-19 hygiene protocol

Vera Knapton - continued

We love you dearly Mum and you will always be in our hearts. Rest in peace — you were one of a kind. Wiggy, Fiona and family would like to thank everyone for their love and support at this time.

A Poem for Mum, read by Fiona

God looked around His garden and He found an empty place

He then looked down upon this Earth, and saw your tired face

*He put his arms around you, and lifted you to rest
God's garden must be beautiful, He always takes the best.*

*It broke our hearts to lose you
But you didn't go alone
For part of us went with you
The day God called you home*

With love from Fiona and Martin, Karen and John, Fletcher and Diane, Christopher and Claire and families

Tributes to Vera

A tribute to our special Nanny Vera...

Dear Nann

Your humor, your high pitched giggles and laughter, your strength, your kindness, your energy, your Scottish tongue, your unconditional love... those are only a few named qualities of many that made you the person, the wife, the mother and for us the beloved grandmother you were.

You were our star when you were alive, you are still our star even now. No matter where we are in this world we can look up into the sky and seek comfort knowing that you are still shining - within our hearts and in our memories.

Memories that we will treasure and all the things you taught us.

May you rest in peace and we will meet one day again.

Nanny, goodbye for now, we love you.

Yours, Sarah and Dane

A few words from Vera's sisters and brothers.

Sylvia / Bunty...

To my beautiful sister, my chalk and cheese, my fire cracker.

Our fun and laughter will never leave me, our endless talks, our love ghosts, stories and tales.

We traveled together as young girls around the world from our little home of Braemar to our new home in New Zealand. I will never forget the laughter we shared and the tears.

You are always an imprint on my heart, My beautiful, brave, courageous, sister. Our spitfire.

I will miss you forever, but always be in my heart, Love you heaps.

Sylvia

Sheila, my dear Vera,

I miss you so much. Miss being able to hold you, hug you, and to say its ok.

I am so glad I was able to have our special time together, to laugh, to lunch, to speak, to enjoy and share our special moments.

They are moments I will always hold in my heart and treasure, For ever and ever,

To our Viki, love you for ever.

To our Vera,

You will always hold a special part in my heart.

Our laughter and fun.

At peace now,

Love you forever.

Mary

To our sister Vera,

The fun and life of the party. We will miss you.

You will always be our courageous, brave sister.

Love you heaps xx

Angus and Alan

Thank You

Wiggy and Fiona, on behalf of their family, would like to say 'thank you' to all the wonderful people who have reached out to us with your love, compassion and support during Vera's illness and passing.

Thanks to Norfolk Island Police.

Thank you Reverend David Fell for your words of comfort and lovely service.

Thank you to the Hospital Staff, Nurses and Aged Care Staff for your care and support—you made Vera feel very comfortable.

Thank you to Robin, Leigh and the ladies who made the beautiful wreaths and floral tributes.

Thank you Tardy,

Thank you Shane and the gravediggers.

Thanks to the pall bearers, Roy, Wayne, Michael and Russell.

Thank you Sue, Emma, Noelene and Pete for decorating the mound prior to the service.

Thanks to Andrew Roach for playing the bagpipes — Vera would have been impressed !

Thanks to Chris Gatehouse for the sound system, and Gaelene, and Gary for recording the service.

Thank you Trent for leading the Pitcairn anthem.

Thank you Yvonne and the Lions ladies for arranging the wake.

Many thanks to family and friends who have been there for us, by phoning, visiting and bringing us beautiful food.

God bless, love from Fiona and Wiggy.