

ROBERT GEOFFREY ARTHUR THOMAS b.19.3.1932 - d. 4.2.2011



Robert Geoffrey Arthur Thomas was a dear and caring husband, father and brother. Robert was born at Mosman on the 19<sup>th</sup> March, 1932, the same day as the ribbon on the Harbour Bridge was officially cut (a Bridge baby). Robert was only a youngster at the outbreak of World War Two. In these tough times, many Australian families struggled. Robert however was an active worker for the Australian Red Cross Society, raising funds to support families affected by the hardships of the war through the sales of badges and pins. Robert and his family moved to Tamworth during his early teens and from there his job as an Insurance Representative with Manufacturer's Mutual (MMI) took him to many places.

He married Lynette Yvonne Goodall in 1961 and they had four children, Annette, Elizabeth, Stuart and David.

However, unlike many others, Robert devoted much of his life to his local communities volunteering countless hours to community organisations.

It was in Tamworth that Robert spent much time in the Scouting movement, as a scout himself (achieving the highest award possible, the King's Scout Award), and later as a Scout Leader and committee worker. Over the years, Robert accumulated an impressive record of service with the Scouting Organisation, both in country NSW and Sydney. Robert not only involved his time to the Scouting movement, but also to the Girl Guides Association of Australia. His involvement with the brownies and guides was concurrent with his work with the cubs and scouts.

With the inception of the Neighbourhood Watch by the NSW Police Force, Robert attended the first meeting of his local area in 1986, and spent the next 9 years as street, zone and area co-ordinator. A Justice of the Peace since 1957, Robert was a tireless worker and a fine role model to many people and organisations.

Robert was also a very active member of the NSW & ACT Masonic Organisation, with over 40 years membership. During this time, Robert held all offices - attaining the level of the 33<sup>rd</sup> Degree.

He and his family have lived at Inverell, Muswellbrook, Carlingford, Forresters Beach and Cameron Park.

Robert will be sadly missed by those he leaves behind: his loving and dedicated wife, Lynette; his children, Elizabeth Caddaye, Stuart and David Thomas; and his grandchildren, Cameron and Kiara Caddaye, Daniel, Brooke, Samuel and Joel Thomas and Kyle and Ethan Thomas.