



Ella Meek - Eulogy

Ella was born at Broken Hill on the 15th March 1954 to her parents Agnes and Charles Pearce and was one of their 7 children. After the family moved to Adelaide when Ella was young, she remained there for her school years.

It was when she returned back to Broken Hill to see her sister Denise that she first met Bill Meek. They could not have known then that they would eventually meet up again in the years that followed.

Ella married young but her marriage did not last long but fate would see her and Bill cross paths again and the rest is history as they say.

Ella and Bill married at the Uniting Church in Broken Hill on the 10th November 1979. They moved to Sydney living above a Fire Station in Woollahra where they lived for a period before settling in their family home still today in Seven Hills.

Ella was blessed with 3 adored daughters, twins Naomi and Jodie and Kirsty.

She was a proud and loving Mum to the girls and she nurtured and encouraged them through their early years and into adulthood.

It would be impossible to capture Ella's illustrious career in nursing in this short amount of time but a brief overview will help highlight her dedication and commitment to Nursing.

Ella started work in 1969 at the Ashley Private Nursing Home in South Australia at age 19 as an assistant nurse. From there she moved to St Peters Private Nursing Home and later worked as a general trainee at St Andrews Presbyterian Private hospital and then worked as an enrolled nurse at North Eastern Community Hospital SA in the Operating Theatre from 74-78.

From 1979 to 1998 she held various nursing positions including Community Aid Nurse, Enrolled nurse, roster and allocation manager and registered nurse spanning Broken Hill, South Australia and Sydney.

From 1998 to 2002 Ella became a perioperative Registered nurse, a position she loved and she continued in this role for the Western Sydney area health service- WESTMEAD until she could no longer work due to her progressing illness.

Ella gained her bachelor of Nursing degree from the University of Western Sydney and in 1999-2000, gained her graduate certificate in Nursing (perioperative).

Professionally she had attended and completed no less than 14 courses crucial to her role and was a member of 6 professional associations and had conducted several educational presentations on Perioperative Nursing.

She was highly regarded and respected by many in the medical profession.

Ella also received the Humanitarian Overseas Service Medal for her work in Samoa after the earthquake and Tsunami there.

When Ella became a grandmother to her grandchildren she was thrilled and her grandchildren brought her much joy and happiness in most recent times.

Ella loved many things in life, her family, her career and beautiful things.

She was hardworking, determined and fiercely independent.

She supported Bill throughout his career, enjoyed knitting and sewing and loved to read.

Ella did not suffer fools gladly and was no-nonsense in her approach to most things but she was incredibly loyal, reliable and capable in everything she turned her hand to.

Her and Bill's future plans of an active retirement sadly were not to be, but with the support of each other, Ella's family will move forward with Ella always in their hearts.

Words from Debbie Dobbs on behalf of the NSW OTA:

Ella had been a valuable member of our organisation, she held the positions of Education Officer and also Conference Convenor she knew what it took to organise a conference, Friday night dinner was themed & you could always count on Ella making the most of it in her fancy dress ... some of her outfits!! She will be sadly missed but remembered as a bright, outgoing, colourful, feisty woman & friend.