

❖ MARK WILLIAM McFARLANE ❖

Mark was born on the 6th July 1960, the youngest of Jim and Shirley's four sons, with brothers Neil, Ross and Ian. He lived his whole life in Buderim and went to Buderim Mountain State School, followed by Maroochydore High. His family lived on six acres at the top of Ballinger Road and then when Mark was in his early teens the family moved to Bretz Street in Buderim.

When Mark was young, his family noticed that he was unwell, and after tests at four years of age it was discovered that he had very poor kidney function, something that he would wrestle with for the rest of his life. At that time, kidney transplants were experimental, and it was only when he was twenty-five that he finally had one. His childhood was marked with multiple doctor and hospital visits. Despite this, Mark had a dream of becoming a motor mechanic. He began as an apprentice mechanic for Russell Houghton at Suncoast Automotive Services in 1976 and "Herbie" continued to work there, respected by both his colleagues and customers for over forty years, right up until he died.



Mark had a happy childhood despite his health challenges; fun times with camping trips, picnics, swimming, cards and board games. He learnt to play the guitar and rode billy carts with his brothers. The family went to car races and Mark enjoyed fishing off the rock wall at Point Cartwright with his Dad after work, a few times a week. Many Sunday afternoons were spent playing tennis and he also liked ten pin bowling and billiards. Later in life, Mark's preferred sport was lawn bowls and he was a member of the Buderim Bowls Club.

Mark married Janelle in 1987 and they were blessed with two children, Josh and Bonnie. Family holidays were spent at Noosaville, Straddie and Bargara, but Woodgate was the favourite. Another special destination was Tasmania. Picnics at Mooloolaba, Point Cartwright, Cotton Tree and Alexandra Headland were also happy family outings. Mark keenly followed motor sport, regularly going to both the V8 Supercars and Winter Nationals at Willowbank.

Mark faced more health challenges with many different surgeries and treatments and he resumed renal dialysis in 1998. This led to another kidney transplant in 2001, until he eventually needed dialysis again in 2016. Despite all these obstacles he remained positive, happy and an inspiration to others. He made the most of every opportunity, even using the many hours spent on dialysis searching for gourmet recipes he could cook for his family and friends. He did not dwell on his problems, but thought instead of others and ways he could help them.

Mark served our community loyally, most recently as a dedicated member of the leadership team at Chancellor Park Community Church. He was also on the P&F Executive at Nambour Christian College where his children attended secondary school. He was a committed Christian who humbly lived out his faith in all aspects of his life. He was a devoted husband, father, son, brother, uncle, friend and colleague. His friendly smile, caring blue eyes and gentle words impacted all who had the pleasure of his company.

Mark died on the 6th July 2017, the day of his 57th birthday.

Donors: Russell and Sally