

❖ ANN BRETT LYNCH ❖

Ann Lynch (nee Charlton) was born in Melbourne in 1936 but grew up in Brisbane where she attended Ascot State School during her primary years and then Clayfield College in secondary school. In 1958 Ann graduated from the University of Queensland with a BA Hons in English Language and Literature, before completing a short business course and pursuing work with ABC Radio. During a 'European adventure' in 1960, she worked for several months in Paris. On her return she gained a position as a Librarian with the State Library in Brisbane.



She married David Lynch in 1963 and the following year they went to Edinburgh where David completed postgraduate study and training in ENT surgery. They resided in the UK for three years where their daughters, Cathy, Margaret and Fiona, were then born. Upon returning to Brisbane in 1967, David accepted an invitation to join an ENT practice in Melbourne. Two years later their son, Andrew, was born. As well as helping in the medical practice, Ann completed her library qualification and also gained a Dip Ed at Melbourne State College. She then undertook work as an emergency teacher and librarian.

Having been an official at her children's Little Athletics events, Ann (in her 40's) also took up running. She participated in various fun runs before competing in the 1981 World Veterans Athletics Championships in New Zealand. Despite a breast cancer diagnosis in 1982 and subsequent mastectomy, she ran the Honolulu marathon later that same year in just over four hours. She completed a further four marathons as well as various other veteran running events. This truly impressive record was possibly eclipsed by her successes in encouraging other women to participate.

She was a keen member of Alliance Francaise in Melbourne and was official translator for the French team at the World Veteran Athletics Championships in Melbourne in 1985. To assist as an Audiometrist in David's practice, Ann completed a Certificate of Audiometry; she also completed a certificate course at Burnley Horticultural College so that she could become more involved with the macadamia farms she and David established in the 1970's and 1980's in Gympie and, later, Bundaberg. Aside from this, she volunteered as a presenter at Melbourne's 'Radio for the Print Handicapped' once a week during the breakfast session, and also did volunteer work for 'meals-on-wheels'.

The Girl Guide Movement was an important part of Ann's life; she was a Queen's Guide and became a Ranger in later years. For several years in Melbourne she was President of the local Guiding Association, and more recently she was inducted as a member of the Olave Baden-Powell Society, which supports underprivileged young women throughout the world.

BUDERIM

Ann and David retired to Buderim in 1999 making their home at Foote Ridge where Ann's family previously had a "weekender" in the 1950's. In their early retirement years, Ann and David had an involvement with the Foote Sanctuary. As well as this, they were active supporters of the Royal Flying Doctor Service. Ann was also a regular volunteer with the Buderim Library at the time when the catalogue was being computerised.

Ann had a special interest in what was then the Australian Federation of University Women and was particularly active in encouraging the involvement of other women graduates in this organisation. One of her great passions was encouraging other women to join and to become involved in a range of community forums and activities.

Ann continued her love of the French language through involvement with U3A (University of the Third Age). She was a keen mahjong player and had a great appreciation of music, particularly concert presentations and she and David enjoyed combining this with their overseas travels. Thirty years after her first cancer diagnosis, Ann was again diagnosed with breast cancer. She passed away in June 2014 aged 78 years.

Donor: Lynch Family