

❖ AUBREY & MAIDA MACE ❖

BACKGROUND

As a newly married couple, Aubrey and Maida Mace were working on the family property at St George at the outbreak of World War II. Aubrey then enlisted with the RAAF and trained as a pilot in Canada before being sent to Britain. He was shot down on his first mission and spent the rest of the war (four years) in a German prisoner

-of-war camp. Shortly after his capture, he received a postcard from home featuring a photograph of his newly-born first daughter. Back home after the war, Aubrey and Maida purchased a property at Cambooya (near Toowoomba) where another two daughters were born. During this time, the family maintained a tradition of spending summer holidays at Mooloolaba. They sold the Cambooya property in 1956 and moved to Buderim.



LIFE ON BUDERIM

While Aubrey retained part-ownership in properties near Rockhampton and Balonne, he was essentially semi-retired and able to spend most of his time in Buderim. Settling firstly on a 'hobby farm' in the Gilbert Street area, the family grew fruit and vegetables for the local market and became involved in the small but vibrant Buderim community. The two younger girls attended Buderim Mountain School before following in their elder sister's footsteps to attend boarding schools for their secondary schooling.

Both Aubrey and Maida were champion golfers and were part of a dedicated group of Buderim residents who joyfully spent countless hours helping establish Headland Golf Club in the 1950s and 60s. Both Aubrey and Maida were made life members of the club and Aubrey a patron for life. He was a member of various other clubs and supported their fund-raising and other activities. He did beautiful woodwork and maintained a weekly commitment teaching wood-turning to young people with mental disabilities at the Endeavour Workshop in Maroochydore where he was greatly adored by his students.

Maida also supported other clubs particularly the Sunshine Coast Contract Bridge Club where she excelled as a player. She did voluntary work at a Nambour facility for mentally disabled children and at the 'op shop' that raised funds for the service.

Aubrey and Maida's daughters remember with great fondness their early days on Buderim with few homes scattered across a rural landscape – cutting across paddocks to see their mates, a time when everyone really did know everyone. They remember the family moving to other homes in Panorama Crescent and Horseshoe Bend before their parents moved to a waterfront property at Bundilla in later years.

They remember their parents' wide and varied community contributions but, most of all, they remember them simply as terrific parents who welcomed their daughters' friends into the family home – to visit, to eat, to stay. The daughters remember their father's generosity in the wider community, helping openly but also privately and quietly when he was aware of someone in need. He was much loved by the many who knew him as convivial companion or friend.

Donors: Lindee, Margi and Sandee