

❖ MARGARET MORRIS ❖

BACKGROUND

Margaret Morris (nee Berry) was born in Melbourne in 1921. Her father was a Gallipoli veteran, an original ANZAC, and her grandfather (Sir Graham Berry) was Premier of Victoria on three occasions between 1875 and 1881. The difficult years of the Great Depression impacted on Margaret's family, as it did so many others, and it wasn't till better days that Margaret undertook tertiary studies as a part-time student at the University of Sydney. She graduated with a Master of Arts and gained a teaching position in Lithgow.



She married Dr John Morris in 1943 and continued her teaching role while John was serving with the RAAF.

At the end of World War II, they set up a medical practice at Forestville on Sydney's North Shore. They had five children - Michael, Bill, Andy, Charlie and Gabrielle. With Margaret ably managing the busy Morris household, John was able to pursue his passion as an aviation adventurer. In 1961, he completed an epic journey to England in a Monospar, an historic aircraft designed by author Neville Shute. A book titled 'Two men in a flying machine' tells the story of that journey. John died in 1981 when the plane he was flying to the family property in rural New South Wales crashed.

LIFE ON BUDERIM

Charlie Morris, Margaret and John's fourth son, moved to Queensland in 1983. He had inherited his father's love of flying and had taken on a career as a commercial airline pilot. He married Ann Loxton in 1985 and they settled in Buderim. Margaret became a regular visitor to Buderim from that time onwards and was a very happy guest at Milne House, the historic home in Orme Road that Charlie and Ann had bought and restored. The birth of her Buderim grandchildren provided further incentive for Margaret's visits and she became very much a part of the lives of Charlie and Ann's three children. She loved everything about Buderim - the natural environment, the community spirit and the friendliness. Margaret relished Buderim's proximity to the sea which gave her the opportunity to take her regular swim at Mooloolaba. She shared the joy that Charlie and Ann experienced in being part of the Buderim community, including Ann's involvement with Friends of Buderim.

Margaret's second cousin Audrey along with her husband Snow Evans and family had been regular visitors to the Morris's home in Forestville over many years until Audrey and Snow retired to Minyama on the Sunshine Coast, a short drive from Buderim. Audrey passed away within days of John Morris's death and, as fate would have it, Margaret took on the caring role that Audrey had provided Snow and was a companion to Snow until his death.

While Sydney was her primary home, Margaret maintained an endearing fondness for Buderim and continued her visits until she died on 19 October 2011.

Donor: Charlie and Ann