

A CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Roger William Eyland
18 May 1939–1 January 2018



St Andrew's Anglican Church Roseville
Friday 19 January 2018

Officiating: Bishop Peter Watson, Rev'd Dr John Dickson
Organist: Bill Clark, Director of Music, St Mark's Darling Point

ROGER WILLIAM EYLAND

Roger was born to Elsie and Bill Eyland in Moreton-in-Marsh Hospital, Gloucestershire, England, on the 18th May 1939. He died on 1st January 2018 at Royal North Shore Hospital, Sydney, Australia, surrounded by his family. He is survived by his wife Ann, children David and Catherine, brothers Peter and Simon, daughter-in-law Sarinya, and grandchildren Lily and Will.

The Bill Eyland family migrated to Australia in 1949 prompted by the loss of their second son Julian during the very cold winter of 1947. They were sponsored by Bill's Uncle George Downes, a citrus grower at Kulnura west of Gosford. They eventually settled in Cronulla as Bill had found work in Sydney.

Peter and Roger attended Cronulla Public School. It was here that Roger's extreme myopia was noticed and treated for the first time. This was so severe that later when he joined the staff at Sydney University he was initially rejected by the State Superannuation Board but this decision was overturned on appeal. The rules were governed by requirements for jewellers. Recently he underwent laser surgery and he greatly regretted that he had not done so earlier.

He attended Sydney Boys High School from 1952 to 1956. His favourite subjects were Mathematics and ancient Greek. On matriculation, he enrolled in Engineering at Sydney University but transferred to the Science Faculty in third year, graduating with first class honours in Pure Mathematics in 1960. At that time, the postgraduate scene differed from today with few scholarships and with research masters degrees rather than course work programs. On completion of a Master's degree, Roger won one of two University of Sydney travelling scholarships which led to doctoral studies at the University of Cambridge. The third year of his program was completed as an Assistant Lecturer at the University of Aberdeen.

He married Ann Whight, a fellow tutor in Pure Mathematics at Sydney University, in January 1965. They spent three happy years living on Deeside eight miles west of Aberdeen. There were wonderful stories to enjoy both old and new—buses painted yellow so they would be seen in the snow, North Sea fish so different from the warm water fish of Sydney, unusual food like haggis, excellent whisky, and no mountains between Aberdeen and the Russian Steppes.

In August 1968, Roger returned to Sydney to a lectureship in Pure Mathematics at his old university. He loved the University, its people and its central purpose of research and teaching. Like Chaucer's Clerk, 'gladly did he lerne and gladly

did he teche'. Not only did he teach and research, he spent many years as a committee member and publications officer of the Mathematical Association of New South Wales important for assisting the teaching of mathematics in NSW secondary schools.

He and Ann lived on campus at Wesley College from where David was born in January 1970. Just after Easter that year, they moved to Abingdon Road, Roseville where Catherine was born two years later in 1972. The family has lived at Roseville ever since with a few short gaps, the longest of which was seven years from 1990 to 1996 when Roger, Ann and Catherine lived at the Women's College where Ann was Principal. David was serving in the Army by this time. As a relief from the social demands of college life, Roger took up bell ringing at St Phillips, Church Hill. This became a great hobby for him that gave him much enjoyment over the years.

Roger had a great love of books, and the house in Roseville looks and feels very much like a library. Many of the books are histories, possibly prompting Catherine and David to study history for their Bachelor degrees, rebelling against their parents' mathematical leanings. In the last few months of his life, Roger decided to reorganise his books. In spite of suffering the symptoms of advanced Parkinson's, he persisted in moving piles of books from one part of the house to another. At one point, David found him at the computer attempting to negotiate the Berkelouw's booksellers' website. He was determined to locate and buy a complete copy of C.E.W. Bean's Official History of Australia in the War of 1914-1918 – "We don't have a copy of that one".

Roger's love of music was reflected in his love of the sung ritual of the Church of England. At Cambridge he joined St John's College of the world famous choir. Roger delighted in attending Chapel regularly enjoying that remarkable choir and its companionship. Ann's visits from London concluded with Evensong at John's. On arrival at the local Episcopalian Church in Aberdeenshire, Roger and Ann found that they were expected because the John's Chaplain had announced their impending arrival.

Roger's life was shaped by his family's Christian belief. In his own life, he displayed the fruit 'of the Spirit of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control'. We his family will very much miss his liberality of mind, his gentleness of soul, his stoicism in the face of physical suffering and his patience with our impetuosity. He fought his illness but understood better than we did the nature of the end race. On New Year's Day, he slipped quietly away.

Ann, David and Catherine Eyland

ORDER OF SERVICE

Prelude—Bach and Handel

Introduction and Welcome

Please stand as the Minister says

I AM the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. *John 11:25-26*

I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. *Romans 8:38-39*

Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. But each in turn: Christ, the firstfruits; then, when he comes, those who belong to him. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death. *1 Corinthians 15:20-26*

Hymn

Praise my soul the King of Heaven

1 Praise, my soul, the King of heaven
To his feet thy tribute bring
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven
Who like thee his praise should sing?
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise the everlasting King

2 Praise him for his grace and favour
To our fathers in distress
Praise him still the same for ever
Slow to chide and swift to bless
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Glorious in his faithfulness

3 Father-like, he tends and spares us
Well our feeble frame he knows
In his hands he gently bears us
Rescues us from all our foes
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Widely yet his mercy flows

4 Angels, help us to adore him
Ye behold him face to face
Sun and moon, bow down before him
Dwellers all in time and space
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise with us the God of grace

H.F. Lyte 1834

Prayer

Let us say together (all standing):

Heavenly Father, in your Son Jesus Christ you have given us a true faith and a sure hope. Help us to live as those who believe in the forgiveness of sins and the resurrection to eternal life; through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Please be seated

Reflections on the Life of Roger Eyland

Simon Eyland—brother

John Mack—colleague

Musical Reflection Bill Clark organist

Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring *J S Bach*

Psalm 23 The Lord's my Shepherd
from the Old Testament Book of Psalms

sung as a hymn by the congregation

1 The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want;
He makes me down to lie
In pastures green; He leadeth me
The quiet waters by.

2 My soul He doth restore again,
And me to walk doth make
Within the paths of righteousness,
E'en for His own name's sake.

3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,
Yet will I fear no ill;
For Thou art with me, and Thy rod
And staff me comfort still.

4 My table Thou hast furnished me
In presence of my foes;
My head Thou dost with oil anoint,
And my cup overflows.

5 Goodness and mercy all my life
Shall surely follow me;
And in God's house forevermore,
My dwelling place shall be.

Reading from the New Testament—David Eyland

John 11, 17 to 27 Jesus the Resurrection and the Life

¹⁷ When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸ Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, ¹⁹ and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. ²⁰ When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. ²¹ Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.” ²³ Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” ²⁴ Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.” ²⁵ Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, ²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?” ²⁷ She said to him, “Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.”

John 11, 38 to 44 Jesus Raises Lazarus to Life

³⁸ Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. ³⁹ Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days.” ⁴⁰ Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?” ⁴¹ So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, “Father, I thank you for having heard me. ⁴² I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.” ⁴³ When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” ⁴⁴ The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”

Address

Bishop Peter Watson

Prayers

We say together

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, in earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread; Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us; Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory, are yours Now and forever. Amen.

Further prayers

Committal Prayers and Final Blessing

Rev'd Dr John Dickson Senior Pastor St Andrews Roseville.

Please stand

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, you have given us a sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life; in your keeping are all those who have departed in Christ; we here commit the body of Roger William Eyland to be cremated: earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust; in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, who died, and was buried, and rose again for us, and who shall change our mortal body that it may be like his glorious body. Thanks be to God who gives us the victory through Jesus Christ our Lord! Amen.

The peace of God which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be amongst you, and remain with you always. Amen

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Response In the name of Christ, Amen

Recessional

The March from Music for the Royal Fireworks G F Handel

As the pall-bearers leave the church, followed by close friends and family, we ask the congregation to proceed to the forecourt for the final farewell.

After the service the family warmly invites you to join them at afternoon tea in the Church Hall.

Memorial website

A memorial website has been established at rogereyland.com by Jeremy White a long standing friend of David. If you would like to share your own personal memory of Roger, it is possible to do so on the website. Thank you Jeremy for this kind gesture.



Roger was known for his kindness. If you would like to make a donation in his memory, the family would greatly appreciate it if you would donate online to the memorial page for Roger at Parkinson's New South Wales

<https://www.parkinsonsnsw.org.au/support-us/donations/in-memoriam>