

To Mum: **Geraldine Doumany**
On behalf of Stuart, Simon, Cathy & Jo

At Dad's request, I would like to speak on behalf of my brothers and sisters about our Mother. Much of what I say will compliment what Dad has already expressed, but we would like to give you a little insight into Mum through the eyes of her children.

As Pam's children, each one of us is aware of her legacy and the influence she has had on our lives. Mum has always been first and foremost a loving wife and mother. This dedication to her family saw her involved in many aspects of our lives not only as children but in our adult years.

It is only when you become a parent yourself that you begin to recognise and value the strengths of your own mother. As her children, Stuart, Simon, Cathy, Jo and I frequently draw on the values which Mum instilled in us.

Mum's capacity for selfless devotion and love for her family was displayed on a daily basis. As Children, Mum spent hours shuttling us backwards and forwards from school, extra-curricular activities and social events. This left little time for herself and we always came home to a hot meal around the dining room table at night with much chatter about the day's events.

Mum's involvement with our schools, saw her holding committee positions on the Glennie P& F and a member of the Toowoomba Grammar and Prep P& F for many years. Committee involvement also extended to the Town and Country Club, The Women's Section of the National party and The Royal Flying Doctor Service.

As well as these commitments Mum was tireless in supporting our activities; ballet for the girls, believe or not now, was another after school activity which not only competed with the boys and their football, but saw mum up at night on endless occasions sewing ballet costumes to meet Mrs Drew's very precise instructions and deadlines. The old prop cupboard still exists today as the

grandchildren enjoy her creativity and our old ballet costumes. Remember John!!

What little time we had left outside school commitments was taken up with horses and we were all involved in this pastime as members of the Kurrajong Pony Club. Mum's sewing talents came to the fore as she organised a group to sew the original saddle cloths for each member of the new club. Craigmore became the focal point of the club from the monthly musters to the end of year break-up parties at which adults and children alike ended up around Mum at the piano for a sing song. Although at times not totally comfortable with aspects of our horsy past times - Stuart and Simon could be daring riders. Mum would always sit and watch our club days and competitions. This is often when the knitting came out to pacify her fears for her children.

As Dad has said, Mum loved her craft - While this gave her sometime to herself the end result was always for the children and in latter years the grandchildren. Jumpers, bed socks, woven garments, toys and clothing were the end result and we always looked forward to the finished article.

Mum was a disciplined person in all aspects of her life and part of that discipline extended to her fitness. The sports she enjoyed were her swimming in the Craigmore pool and her tennis. Tuesday of every week was sacred to Mum as she enjoyed a game of "serious" tennis, conversation and laughter with her very special group of friends. The friendship of this group, which Mum treasured, went well beyond their tennis days and has extended over the past forty odd years.

Mum was a home maker. From the original shearer's quarters at Rosscoe, to the Rosscoe homestead and to Craigmore you could see her touches everywhere. Mum loved her garden and flowers she could pick - there were always flowers in the home. Mum also loved to be able to grow her own vegetables and fruit which she used in her cooking. With five children Mum spent much time preparing food - the sound of the old mix master was a constant buzz in her kitchen. Many of you will recall the wonderful spreads

she put out for the numerous gatherings at Craigmore and the picnic hampers she put together for our sporting days.

Supporting Mum's nurturing manner was a strong, capable, practical woman. Dad was running 2 properties miles from each other, so mum had weeks coping at Craigmore alone. As well as keeping us all in tow and the home running smoothly Mum applied her bookkeeping and typing skills to the family business doing the administration and books for the two properties.

Anyone who met Mum was struck by her very natural ways and sweet personality, warm and loving nature and her delightful sense of humour. Mum and Dad had 56 years of love and devotion to each other, which was never more evident than in these last years of her life. MUM was a loving Wife and Dad's best friend; our dearest Mother and our children's loving Grandmother and more recently Great Grandmother. MUM you will live on in all our hearts, thoughts and memories always.