



YOUR STORY

EDITION 4



Kalyna Care

Personal and Compassionate Care



KALYNA CARE

FORWARD

This is the fourth volume of our Your Story book. Kalyna Care continues to provide a valuable service to the Ukrainian community as well as many other local communities hailing from Eastern Europe and other parts of the world.

Along with the facilities history having been originally known as the Ukrainian Elderly People’s Home, there are many other individual stories about the people who now live at Kalyna Care who share their stories surrounding hardship, determination, their love of life together with their families and friends.

The richness of these stories clearly comes to life as they have described their very varied

experiences and adventures over time. Without a doubt these actual stories preserve the memories of our people that will and in all probability have already had a major impact on others and will continue to contribute to and influence the lives of future generations. Importantly, they are the words of the residents themselves as they now see and remember their world from the beginning.

Please enjoy the many stories of these people as we thank each and every one who provided their story and to their families for sharing what are truly amazing insights into the journey that they have travelled.

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KATERINA BEREZYJ

KATERINA BEREZYJ WAS BORN 12/08/1926 IN A LITTLE VILLAGE OF UKRAINE NAMED STARIAWA.



Wedding Day at Camp on the 03-02-1946.



Walter Berezyj and his Wife, Katia.

Katerina's mother Maria Hnatoyko was a house wife and her father Mykolaj Hnatoyko worked in a Mill saw factory. The family lived from manual labour. They had 8 children Anna, Ruzia, Katia, Osyp, Volodymyr, Mariyka, Slavko & Olya. Katerina was the 3rd of the 8 and was very close to all her siblings and is currently living in the same Aged care facility as her sister Ruzia (Rosalia).

Until 1944 the family lived in Halychyna. They were then evacuated to Germany, but found themselves in Austria at the time of the third Reich. In 1949 they left for Australia where both Katerina's parents passed away along with siblings Volodymyr and Mariyka; Osyp had passed away in Austria in an accident.

Katerina went to school until grade 1 however couldn't continue schooling because

of the war and Ukraine being under Poland control.

I met my husband Walter at the Magdalena Refugee camp. I saw a young man reading and hinted that I would like to meet him to a friend, when Walter came over to me I knew I had met my soul mate. We were Wed in winter at a young age on Sunday 3rd Feb 1946. I borrowed a Ukrainian ethnic-style wedding dress from one of my friends. The ceremony took place in the Magdalena chapel along with 15 other couples also getting married. After the ceremony we were showered with homemade paper confetti. We held a small reception serving coffee and 3 biscuits per person which the camp kitchen supplied. Walter tells me that I drank so much I could barely stand and my bridesmaids and close friends had to take me to my barracks and undress me, they also tied

a kerchief around my head. By the time Walter came to bed he said I was snoring like a drunken Zaporozhian Cossack after a night out. We have 4 children and 9 grandchildren. We have now been married for 68 years.

After arriving in Australia we had to start a new life from scratch which was not easy since we already had 3 children. We knew no English which was the main problem for us and my husband Walter needed to find work to support us. Lucky for us, two friends helped Walter find work at General Motors Holden as an operator in the Fishermen's bend plant North Melbourne'. He worked the night shift. Life was hard but after 5 years of renting we finally bought a housing commission home in Broadmeadows. We sold the home in 1999 and purchased a unit in Delahey.

Walter speaks very highly of Katia and states that Katia has a magnetic personality and is always surrounded by friends, he often wonders why she fell for him and said it is probably because they both share a love for books. Walter states that although Katia didn't have the opportunity to gain a higher education Katia can still manage to grasp the elementary principles of reading and arithmetic. Katia is a very talented woman and brave in making decisions. She never worries about consequences, be they positive or negative. Without thinking she will set out to do what she has set her mind on. She has a strong character. From an Early age she liked to be authoritative and took the initiative all the time. A memory of this is when in her childhood Katia found herself looking after her youngest brother Slavko, who had started to walk. Katia felt sorry for him, for he was running around barefoot on a bare earthen floor. Katia thought for a moment: "Hmm!? Why not make some small shoes for him?" It was pitiful; his little feet were blue from the cold.

She looked here and there, and decided to venture into the storehouse to see if she could find something there. But there was nothing. Ah, but wait! SHE SPIED HER FATHERS HAT ON A PEG.

In her mind's eye the idea was already born, that the felt of the hat was ideal material for making a pair of shoes for little Slavko. Katia thought: 'That's not right, it might all end up a mess and father has only one hat which he wears to church. In the end she decided: 'I'll cut off the brim at the back of the hat, maybe father won't notice anything and I won't be punished.' She fetched the scissors and set to work. The hat had a broad brim. Katia cut the

back part of the brim off and hung the hat back in the same spot with the front facing forward; then she set about making her shoes. She called Slavko and told him to place his feet on the cut off brim of the hat: first one foot, then the other. She traced his feet with a piece of charcoal and cut the pieces out, leaving space for sewing. The rest of the felt would be for the tops of the shoes. She cut everything out and began to sew and by evening she had sewn a pair of shoes for her brother. Having sewn them she put them on him, tied them with laces and little Slavko could run around on the earthen floor in his "shoes".

When her parents came home they were overcome by wonderment at Katia's mastery. Katia was very happy, that she had managed to sew the shoes and that her parents were so proud of her achievements and her inventiveness, not even asking where she had found the material. This euphoria lasted till Sunday; everything seemed to have been forgotten, until father began getting ready for church. He shaved, cleaned his shoes, and sent someone to fetch his hat. Only then did Katia become scared and thought: "Oho! Here comes trouble!" Mother chanced to look up and burst out laughing. "Mykola, are you going to church looking like that?!"

And she laughed loudly: "Ha ha ha! What will people say?!" And she continued to laugh loudly: Father asked perplexed. "Take a look into the mirror! Katia, hand your dad the mirror." It was here somewhere, and her mother kept on laughing. Unwillingly Katia handed her father the mirror. Father took one look at himself and began to laugh uproariously. Mother and children laughed in unison. There was no need to even ask who had destroyed the hat. It was Katia, of course, or Kaska as she was called at home. Her Father then asked "Why did you do it?" Katia told him Slavko's feet had been cold so she made him shoes.

Still laughing, Father took off his hat and handed it to Katia with the words; "Here, have some more material. Slavko will have his shoes now, but I will go cold without a hat. I've had this hat all these years, until Katia finished it off." That Sunday Father went to church without a hat and the neighbours noticed: "Look, Mykola doesn't have a hat today! What is that supposed to mean?" On hearing this comment, Father retorted: "I lost my hat, but found a tailor in my home."

We now reside in an Aged care facility and I love it here and never want to leave.



The kids all together...

PELAGIA (PEGGY) BOJCZUK

PREFERS TO BE CALLED PEGGY.

PEGGY WAS BORN IN JAKTORIW, UKRAINE ON THE 19TH NOVEMBER 1927.

Arrived in Sydney, Australia 29th October 1948 on the Charlton Sovereign (ship).

Her Religion is Catholic and her place of worship is North Melbourne.

Parents were Ksenia (mum) and Ivan (father). Peggy also had brothers and a sister.

Hrenko, Vasil, Stephan, Paul and sister Marenia. Peggy was the youngest of all six children.

Peggy also has two children Natalie and Andrew.

MAJOR EVENTS AND UPHEAVALS

Leaving home at the age of 16 to follow her brother Paul to Germany.

Moving to Australia with my husband Andrew.

Peggy studied in Ukraine until the age of 14. Her favourite subject was writing.

Best friend was brother Paulo. I have memories of playing in the school yard.

My first job was milking cows in Germany at the age of 16. I was paid nothing for this job.

I had worked there from 1943 to 1945 with my position being Dairy Farm Hand.

Working in Australia – Company was Australian Controls, worked as process worker.

I had also worked at Ferguson Plarres as a shop assistant.

Wedding day in Germany.



Wedding day in Australia at Ukr. Church, North Melbourne.

The work that gave me great pleasure was Ferguson Plarres, working with a variety of customers and staff. I had also learnt how to make specialty cakes.

My memories of work and colleagues are meeting friends that I have cherished until now.

My favourite music is Perry Como and Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Tony Bennet and Ukrainian folk songs. My favourite songs are That's Amore and That's Life.

My favourite movies stars are Elvis, Jerry Lewis, Dean Martin, Lucille Ball, Laurel and Hardy.

My favourite films are South Pacific, King & I and Sound of Music.

My favourite flowers are roses.

Favourite colour is red.

My most prized procession is my family.

Favourite sports are Tennis and netball.

Favourite sporting teams are Essendon Football (Bombers).

My memories of war are meeting my husband Andrew in Germany.

My husband had joined the Ukrainian Postanska Army (U.P.A). He was a Military Policeman.

What I feel strongly about is family values, my religion and friends.

My likes are good music, company of others and enjoying life.

My philosophy on life is just to be happy and not worry the small stuff.

I'd like to be remembered as being a happy, caring and family minded person.

Natalie (Daughter) and Andrew (Son).

Grand children Adam 4, Carla 5 and Emily 7.

MY WEDDING!

My spouse was born on 2/11/1920 at Horodenka, Ukraine, we met in Germany and were married at Ludvisburg Germany by the Register Office.

Memories I have of my wedding is that we married again in Australia at the Ukrainian Church 'St. Peters and Paul's Cathedral' in North Melbourne.

MY MARRIAGE AND CHILDREN!

My spouse grew up in Horodenka, Ukraine, he's occupation was Agricultural Engineer. He's work history is running a sugar beet plantation, then army. In Australia he had worked in a Quarry, Australian Controls and then Trans Australia Airlines.

Our Children: Daughter Natalie born 30/06/1949 Son Andrew born 23/03/1965.

Our close friends were Ralph and Edna Freeman.

Our first home together was in Niddrie, we lived there for 60 years.

Our favourite neighbours were Ralph and Edna.

We spent our weekends doing family excursions such as; picnics, fishing, movies and dancing.

We shared our life together for 64 years.



Peggy's Mother.

MY SIBLINGS!

Given Name: Paul

Order in family: 4th Brother

Names of their children: John, Irene and Margaret.

I followed my brother Paul to Germany where I met my husband Andrew. We came to Australia in 1948. Andrew and I settled in Niddrie and Paul went to Adelaide. We missed each other immensely, so Paul moved to Melbourne to be near my husband and I.

He settled in the same street. Andrew and I lived in number 63 which Andrew built himself and Paul lived in 36 which Andrew and Paul built together.

Thus our lives started in Niddrie and then our children came along.

I have very fond memories of, Bubbles (dog), Fluffy (cat) and Duke (dog). Duke was very clever, and he could do many tricks that my husband Andrew taught him.



MARIA BUNDERLA

MARIA BUNDERLA WAS BORN IN SLOVENIA ON 23RD SEPTEMBER 1932.



Home with Daughter Mimi.

My parents Frank and Franceska were lucky enough to have eight other children with me being the middle one. My father had worked as a plasterer and a handyman, whilst my mother was a housewife.

I had worked as young girl caring for both adults and children by cleaning and cooking for them. After coming to Australia when the kids grew up, I worked at home sewing for individuals and family members. I had also worked at Olympic Tyres in the 70's as a sweet cook. I have travelled with disabled children and was the cook for them during tour. "It always felt like home wherever my daughter Mimi was."

I enjoy listening to Slovenian, Austrian, German music, and Oberkrainer music makes me happy.

I was saddened that I never got to see my mother before she passed away.

However I did get the opportunity to travel back home in 1980 and visit with some family member's, it was great to spend some time with them all.

I like to eat potato chips mmmm!!! Roast pork, chicken, cabbage rolls, sauerkraut, knodels, torte, kentucky fried chicken and chips. I don't like to eat food that is bland and I cannot eat lamb.

I was so lucky to have thick hair when I was younger. I still to this day enjoy my hair being set.

I don't mind sitting down and catching up on my serial shows such as Days of our Lives, Young and the Restless and Bold and the Beautiful.

I enjoy watching movies like Xena, Hercules or Holy Bible movies or a movie starring Shirley Temple would be nice. I find it quite relaxing sitting down listening to music and watching movies.

I have many hobbies such as Sewing, Cake Making and Cooking.

Like many others I don't like to discuss War, it is not a topic I would bring up.

I am proud to have two children serve in the Royal Australian Navy.

I remember crying when I saw my daughter Mimi in her uniform when she came home one weekend.

I have many people that are important to me but the most important is my daughter Mimi, my son Peter and my son-in-law Clinton (all are/were in the Navy).

I trust in GOD!!



Daughter Mimi and Son-In-Law Clinton.



Son and Son-In-Law on Navy ship at sea.



Peter, Husband Ludvik and Mimi.

Maria at a young age when arrived in Australia.

GEORGE BURBAN

BORN ON THE 21ST APRIL,
1951 IN AUSTRALIA.

Parents Marriage, Anna & John Burban.



Begonia Festival Ballarat. Won First Prize.



KAZIMIERA DZIEDZIC

I WAS BORN IN POLAND ON THE 23RD AUGUST, 1929.



All the Burban family.



My parents are Anna and John Burban and they came from the Ukraine.

I am the second of 3 Sons the eldest being Bohdan, me and Peter.

I grew up in Ballarat and attended St Columbus Primary School

then St Pauls technical College where I gained my leaving certificate. I loved to play football, and also belonged to the Ballarat Ukrainian Dance Group.

My very first job was as a Farm Crop Duster as a Marker at the age of 17, then I was driving trucks. My star sign is Taurus and my Chinese Zodiac sign in 2012 was the Year of the Rabbit. My prized possession was a Kombi Van; I love to watch Car Racing.

My other great love was my best pal, my dog whose name was Top Gun he was a great companion for me.

I enjoyed playing the guitar and Elvis Presley was my Favourite movie Star, I would have loved to have gone to Graceland to see his home. I enjoy rock music; "Hard Day's Night"

is my favourite song by the Beatles and I also like Country and Western music. I like to do puzzles and play scrabble.

My AFL Team is Collingwood and I'm a very proud Magpies supporter.

I have fond memories of my travels up to Bowen in Queensland and the love and support of my parents who also spent time with me at Kalyna Care.

George Burban (on far left) and brothers.



My father Josef was a farmer and my mother Maria was a housewife. I was the oldest of the girls in the family and there were 4 children in my family. When I was 10 years old, the 2nd world war started in Poland, I had to look after my little brothers and sisters. We were running away from our home, because the Germans were attacking us. After the war I went to finish school and also did sewing lessons. I was good at sewing and did work for the Germans.

My first job was at Rzeszow, in a plane factory where they were making parts for planes.

After I got married I did work at home sewing baby clothes for shops, then I did a drawing class and worked in an office drawing all important parts of the mining industry.

I have had many significant relationships in my lifetime. My mother who loved me very much she sent me to the city so I could have a better life. My husband Edward, we were married on the 26th December, 1950. We were married for 58 years, he passed away in 2008 in Melbourne.

My two daughters who I am very proud of. My oldest daughter Aleksandra is married, lives in Brisbane and has one child Daniel and my youngest daughter Barbara who is married with two children Louise and William.

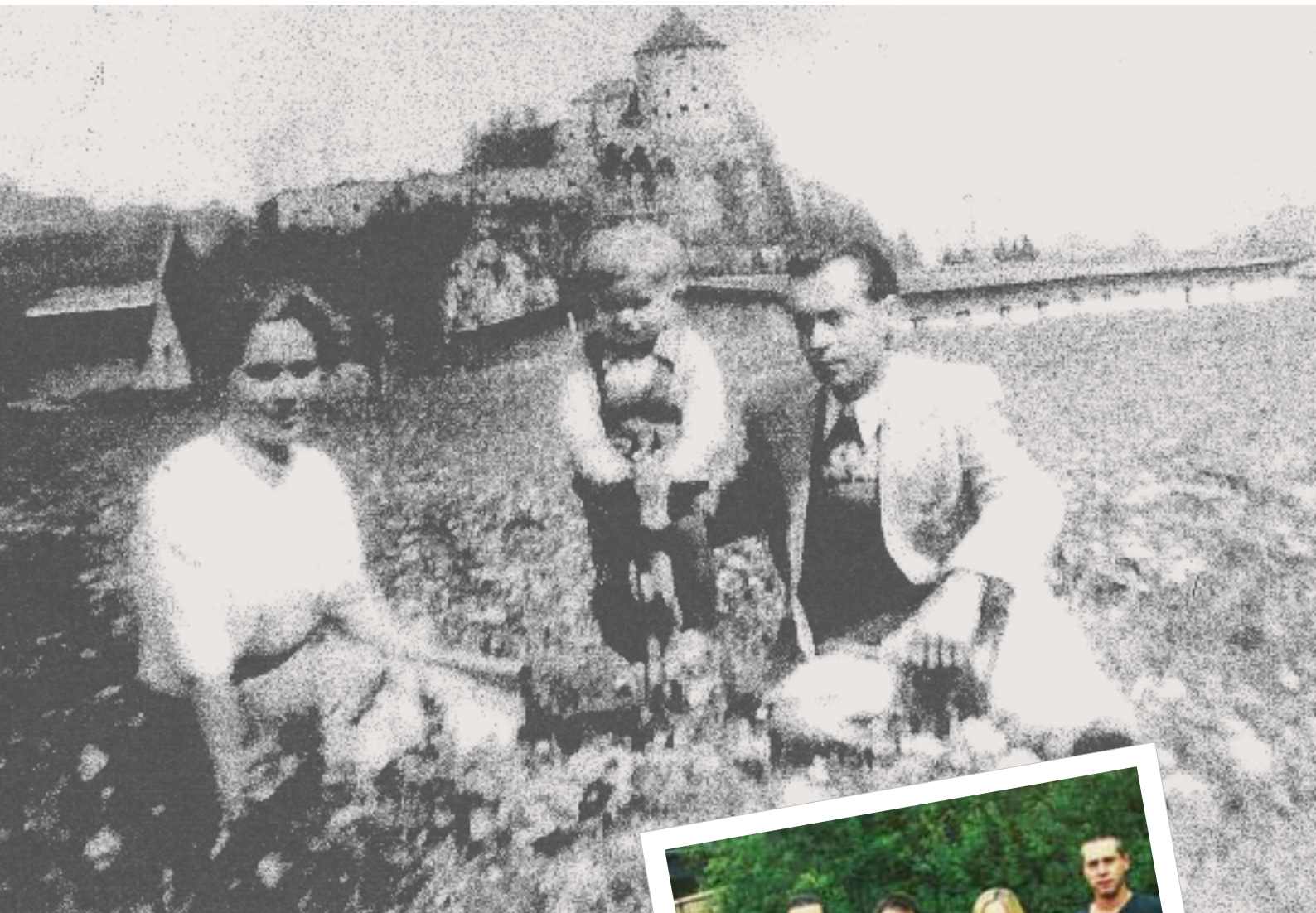
Kazimiera and husband.



Kazimiera and family.

STAN KACZANOWSKI

STAN WAS BORN IN POLAND ON 8TH NOVEMBER, 1923.



Stan (sitting) and family.

Stan had 1 brother and 1 sister, the family was quite large with 8 Uncles and Aunts and lots of cousins. It was a male dominated family, life for Stan was wonderful. He enjoyed school and being a very sociable person, he had many friends.

At school Stan's favourite subject included Maths, Polish, Russian and Ukrainian languages, all which he can speak now. Stan also enjoyed painting and any subject on Health and Hygiene. Coming from a middle class family he was able to finish school, life was going good until the war. Stan joined the army and studied medicine but like many of his class mates the Russians forced any person with medical knowledge qualified or not to work for them on the ships that held over 7 thousand wounded soldiers and civilians of the war. Sadly he never finished his studies due to World War 2 breaking out.

Stan was fortunate enough to be taken to an Austrian Refugee War camp. At the camp Stan met a wonderful lady by the name of Anna, who would visit the people inside. Stan fell in love with this lovely woman and they were married by a Polish Priest in the camp in front of hundreds of other refugees. They had a beautiful son who they named Eugene. Stan took his family to France where he served in the French military.

Life after the war was very uncertain in Europe and there was talk amongst his friends about immigrating somewhere like Australia or South America. Most of Stan's friends chose to go to South America because they had family there, Stan was encouraged to go to Australia with Anna and Eugene as there would be lots more opportunity there. So on the 17th June, 1949 on the ship "Nelly" departing Naples, Stan, Anna and Eugene set sail for Australia. After a long journey they arrive in Victoria only to find all the refugee camps were still occupied by the Japanese. The family had to wait for accommodation, it was at this time that the family got separated. Anna and Eugene were sent to Bonegilla, on the border of New South Wales, and Stan stayed in Victoria and worked for the air force in Tottenham RAAF Base. Stan would ensure that he would visit his family once a month when they let him have time off work. Money was very minimal and in Australia there were many work strikes all over the country. Many of Stan's new found friends talked him into leaving the air force and to start working for a private company as there was more money to be made there. So he left the air force and worked for a company called Feltex carpet manufacturing.

Stan recalls it took a while, but it was the best decision he had made, as he was able to save enough money to buy a house and have his family back together again. Stan enjoyed gardening in his spare time and did a little carpentry work. He finally felt happy again and was at last HOME. Life was at last being kind to him until at the age of 55 he was forced to retire early due to a faulty heart.

Stan again had to endure the pain of loss when his beloved wife Anna passed away from Lymphoma. Stan came to Kalyna Care in June 2009. Eugene continues to be loyal and supportive son and visits Stan weekly. Stan now has 3 grandchildren. Despite all the hardships that Stan has endured he is a quiet, gentle, caring man who has very deep family values, always has a smile and would help anyone.

Stan loves soccer, red roses, the actor Clark Gable and lots of Polish songs. He respects people who help their country.



Maria Lipkewicz in her 20's.

MARIA LIPKEWICZ

MARIA WAS BORN IN UKRAINE ON THE 23RD JANUARY 1922.



From left: Mykola (Maria's Husband), Zenya (Daughter) and Maria.



Maria and Son Andrew on his Wedding Day.

Maria arrived in Australia in the month of January the year of 1949, with her husband Mykola.

Maria and Mykola met in Germany after World War II. All of Maria's friends had told her that she should marry that nice Ukrainian man, and that she did on the 30th May 1945 in Germany by a Polish priest. Maria's memories of her wedding day is that she had married at the end of the war and they felt that they needed to rush through the wedding, as they were afraid the Russians would occupy Germany. Maria said it was a happy and miserable day at the same time. They had gone to live a happy life together and were blessed by two children Zenya and Andrew.

Maria's father Michael fought in the 1st World War. Maria remembers her father as being a good man that looked after his

family, by ensuring there was always food on the table. Maria's mother Ksenya was born in Kadlubiska, Poland. Ksenya was the second of 4 children.

On arriving in Australia, Maria and her husband had moved into a house in Ardeer, where they liked to spend time with their family and attend church. They were fortunate enough to spend 28 years of their life together.

Maria had a number of occupations in Australia such as: sales assistant, kindergarten teacher at the Ukrainian School in Ardeer, secretary assistant, hotel worker, kitchen assistant and laboratory assistant.

Maria's enjoys music from Ukraine, Poland, Germany and Russia, from Classical to lively genres. She also enjoys reading women's magazines and watching films such as Romeo & Juliet and Two Sisters.

Maria feels very strongly about her religion. For most of Maria's life she worked hard for the Ukrainian Church, and she received recognition from the Ukrainian Bishops for her service to the church.

Maria would like to be remembered for her kind, helpful, caring, and thoughtful personality, who would always place her children first.



NIKOLAUS MAGUR

NIKOLAUS MAGUR WAS BORN IN DROHOBYCH, UKRAINE IN 1923.



Nikolaus had 2 sisters and 3 brothers. His family lived in a wooden house. There was no television as it had not yet been invented and his family did not even own a radio. He would walk to and from school during most of the year but in winter he would ski. School hours were from 8am-1pm and his lunches consisted of a buttered bread sandwich.

Nikolaus liked playing soccer and cricket by using a stick for a bat. His chores included helping to work in the field and getting things in readiness for family meals.

Nikolaus didn't really have any toys but liked playing with a wheelbarrow. In the evening, friends and neighbours would gather together to play cards once the children had gone to bed.

Nikolaus was drafted into the army in his late teens during the Second World War as Germany



Nikolaus and Wife Stefania.

had occupied the region of Ukraine where he lived. During his time as a soldier a grenade had wounded him, injuring his leg and lodging shrapnel into his head. He was taken to a hotel in Villach, Austria which had been turned into a makeshift hospital. It was there where he met his future wife, Stefania Klysh, who was also Ukrainian. She was separated from her family at 15 years of age and sent to work on a farm in Krumpendorf, Austria, near Klagenfurt, as a nurse's aide in Villach.

Workers had been drafted into the army, so young people from occupied countries were made to take their place and do their work. After the war, Nikolaus and Stefania were sent to a displaced persons camp in Villach, Austria where they married in 1946 and had a son, Lubomyr.

Nikolaus, with his wife and son, migrated to Australia in 1949. They were transported by train to Naples, Italy where they boarded a ship, the Nelly, to begin their one month journey to Melbourne.

When they arrived they were sent to Bonegilla, a migrant facility in Wodonga, in northern Victoria. Life was hard because they didn't know the language, they had no other family, the food was unfamiliar and they had little to no money. They first settled in Hernes Oak, near Yallourn in the Latrobe Valley in Gippsland where Nikolaus worked on the open cut coal fields and Stefania worked in a café. Their first daughter, Hayla, was born in Yallourn. They moved the family to Melbourne in 1956.

In 1957 they had bought a block of land in Newport. With the help of other Ukrainian migrant friends with the required skills, Nikolaus built his own house. He worked for the State Electricity Commission at the Newport Power Station and later worked on the wharves. He became a forklift driver and a crane operator, loading and unloading cargo while Stefania worked at the Rosella factory in Richmond.

Almost four years after moving into their new home, Nikolaus and Stefania had a second daughter, Marusia. They continued to practise their Ukrainian traditions and faith and installed them in their children, as well as being involved in other aspects of Ukrainian community life. Nikolaus was very social, hardworking and well-liked by his colleagues and friends.

He contributed to building and maintaining the Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral, 'St Peter & Paul' in North Melbourne, and was also a member of the Parish Council for many years.

Nikolaus also served as an active member of the Association of Ukrainians in Newport. The Association organised many barbecues, dances, concerts and other events at the Ukrainian Hall in Percy Street (which was really a house converted into a small hall with a stage that also had a few rooms, a kitchen, outdoor toilets and a backyard). The hall was purchased by the Association from the goodwill of the local Ukrainian community and through fundraising. At these events, Nikolaus would often play in the band on the drums alongside his son on the piano accordion and other Ukrainian musicians. There was always plenty of food, drink, good company, Ukrainian music and dancing. A Ukrainian School was established at the Hall which operated on Saturdays.

Nikolaus was also a supporter of the Ukrainian Youth Association (UYA) in Melbourne, in which he enrolled his youngest children. He volunteered his time over many weekends to help erect the original buildings and maintain the grounds at the UYA camping

property, Karpaty, in Buxton. He and his wife camped there over the Christmas period for many years when their children were adolescents. His children now have their own families.

During his life in Australia, Nikolaus and Stefania made two trips back to Ukraine to reconnect with remaining family members.

Nikolaus' wife died in 2006. Fiercely independent and very resourceful, he continued to live in the Newport family home for seven years afterwards until his medical condition no longer allowed for this to occur. In early 2013, Kalyna Care (UEPH) became Nikolaus Magur's new home, living in a familiar environment filled with Ukrainian arts and crafts and catering to his faith, (which celebrates Ukrainian traditions). All of which are forever in keeping with his roots and in fact, his whole life.



Nikolaus and family.

DRAGICA MILIC

DRAGICA WAS BORN IN KUMANOVO, MACEDONIA ON THE 24TH MAY, 1960.



Dragica in her 20's.



With Husband Joseph.

Dragica likes to be called Donna. Her father's name was Dusko and her mother's name was Georgina. Donna was the eldest daughter and she had 2 younger step brothers Zoran and Bobby. From the age of 2, her mother left her in the care of her grandmother. Between the ages of 3 to 6 years of age she lived in Serbia with foster parents, and then she returned to Macedonia under her grandmother's care. She has very fond memories of her grandmother and the lasting love and care she gave her.

She has lots of memories of going to school when she was a child with her neighbours and friends and always laughing and joking. She was good at all subjects at

school, and when she was 12 years old the government recognised this and as a reward would pay for a holiday trip for her.

As a young child she remembers her father being sent to hospital with a mental illness and this is where he would remain. At the age of 24 Donna was diagnosed with Schizophrenia and due to this was not able to work. The most significant moment for her was when she was saved, and the beginning of her relationship with her saviour The Lord Jesus Christ.

Donna loves to read the Bible, Christian books, going to church, Gospel music and Christian Hymes.

When she came to Australia, she met her husband Joseph in Sydney in 1979, through mutual friends at a bar and married a few years later. They had a child Alen in 1980, she has fond memories of her former husband and their only child when he was young. Her son is a very important part of her life.

Donna enjoys Asian Food, Seafood, Sweets and especially cream cakes, she likes peace and quiet and doesn't like loud noises particularly at night.

ANNA OLIJARNYK

ANNA OLIJARNYK WAS BORN IN UKRAINE ON 14TH MAY 1925.



Anna and her Husband.

Anna Olijarnyk was born in Ukraine near Lviv in the village of Dahniw which is in the town of Lubachiw on the 14th May 1925 to Peter (father) and Hasya (mother).

Anna's family name was Krevko. Anna had one brother Jurik and a sister Kasunya.

At the age of 17 Anna had went to Germany and worked on a farm.

After the war Anna and her husband Wasyl were transported by ship from displaced persons camp in Germany to Victoria, Australia.

Anna has had a deep fear of water since that journey.

Anna first lived in the Bonegilla migrant camp and then the Watsonia army camp. Anna and her husband built their home in Rosanna and lived there for 40 years. Anna loved her pet animals, particularly her cats. Anna worked as a domestic in Yoralla, a hospital for disabled children.

Anna's husband passed away on the 1st February 1979. Anna's close friends the Schparyk

and Krawciw families cared for Anna till she came to live in the Ukrainian Home in Delahey in 1996.

Anna enjoys food, movies and music, her favourite music is Ukrainian classical, favourite songs being Ukrainian Polka and Waltz.



TAMARA ROKITIANTSKI

BORN IN HARBIN, CHINA ON THE 4TH MAY, 1922.

Tamara in her 30's.

I was born in Harbin, China on the 4th May, 1922, my parents were Jacob and Vieanna and I had brothers and sisters Viktor, Mila and Valentina, I was the oldest of 4 children.

I went to an all-girls school and enjoyed learning and doing exams at school. I learnt to speak a little bit Chinese. I went to medical nursing school in China for 2 years.

I had a good life with my parents and relatives growing up as a child in China.

In China I worked at a Medical Clinic for 2 years. I came to Australia in July 1957 with my Father, Mother, Brother and one of my Sisters. My other Sister stayed in China where she was married and had children. We settled in Melbourne, and on the third day I started work sewing clothes in a small factory which I enjoyed then I worked in another factory making TV's.



Tamara with her Husband Ivan 2 days after their Wedding.

I was married to Ivan Rokitiantski for 44 years, we were married at the registration office on November 18th in Melbourne. My mother prepared a nice dinner for family and friends that day.

We moved to Brisbane where I worked as a nurse at Princess Alexander Hospital for 34 years, I enjoyed caring and looking after people there.

We then moved back to Melbourne where we lived at Kalyna Care for 2 years in the Units, which we loved very much, then when my husband passed away I went to live with my brother and his wife in Dandenong to help them, until they passed away. I have now returned to Kalyna Care in one of the rooms, I have a lot of my personal things in my room which make me feel relaxed and happy.

I enjoy reading and like to watch old movies on the TV as well as watching the news.

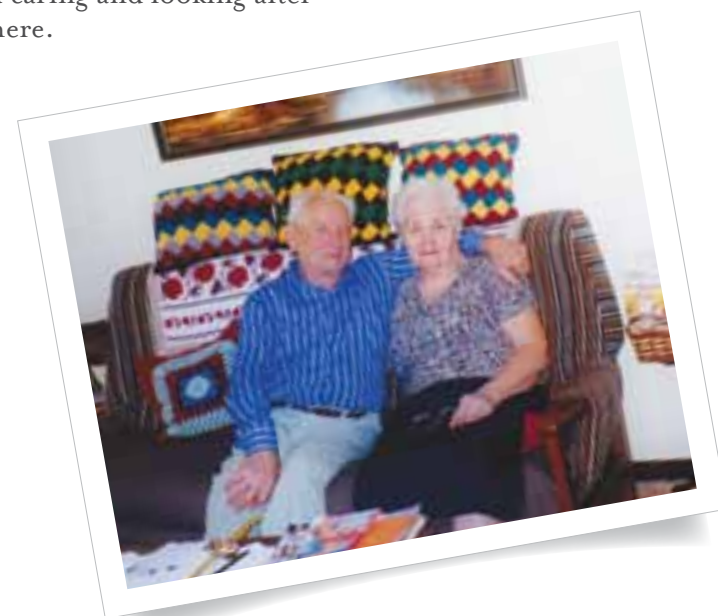
Nothing upsets me much as I have had a hard life and am now happy just to listen to other people, read and relax in my room.

My Husband, parents and siblings have passed away which has been very sad, I'm the only family member left.

My father went to sleep one night and didn't wake up, he was 79 years old, 11 months later my mum also passed away.

I don't mind getting old, but would still like to work as a nurse helping people if I could.

All my life I have worked and helped look after my family members.



Tamara and Husband Ivan.

NELLI SCHERSTIUK

BORN ON THE 15TH NOVEMBER,
1924 IN UKRAINE, SUMY.

Nelli as a young lady.



I was born on the 15th November, 1924 in Ukraine, Sumy. I was the first child of 2 sisters.

My parents Ivan Katse and Maria Limanovskaja were married in 1918. My father worked as a general accountant for a large Sugar Mill and my mother was a seamstress and would look after my sister and me. My sister and I were like twins, we were both top of the class and enjoyed doing a lot of extracurricular activities like dancing, art, and music.

During vacations our family and neighbours would get together and celebrate.

My father played the mandolin and my mother would sing. I would love to dance and enjoyed swimming and playing volleyball.

I started working in Germany when I was 16 years old. I worked on a farm milking cows and working in the fields, and then I worked as a Laboratory assistant. I went to a Chemical Technical School for 2 years, then when

we returned to Sumy I went to work at the General Hospital.

I married my husband Andrey in February, 1946 we were married by the government in Sumy and had a reception with family and friends. We had 2 children Olga and Aleksander. We built our first home in Sumy Ukraine and we lived there for 23 years. We spent our weekends swimming in the river and would like to holiday in the Black Sea Azov Sea Channel. We moved to Lviv, Ukraine to be with my daughter Olga.

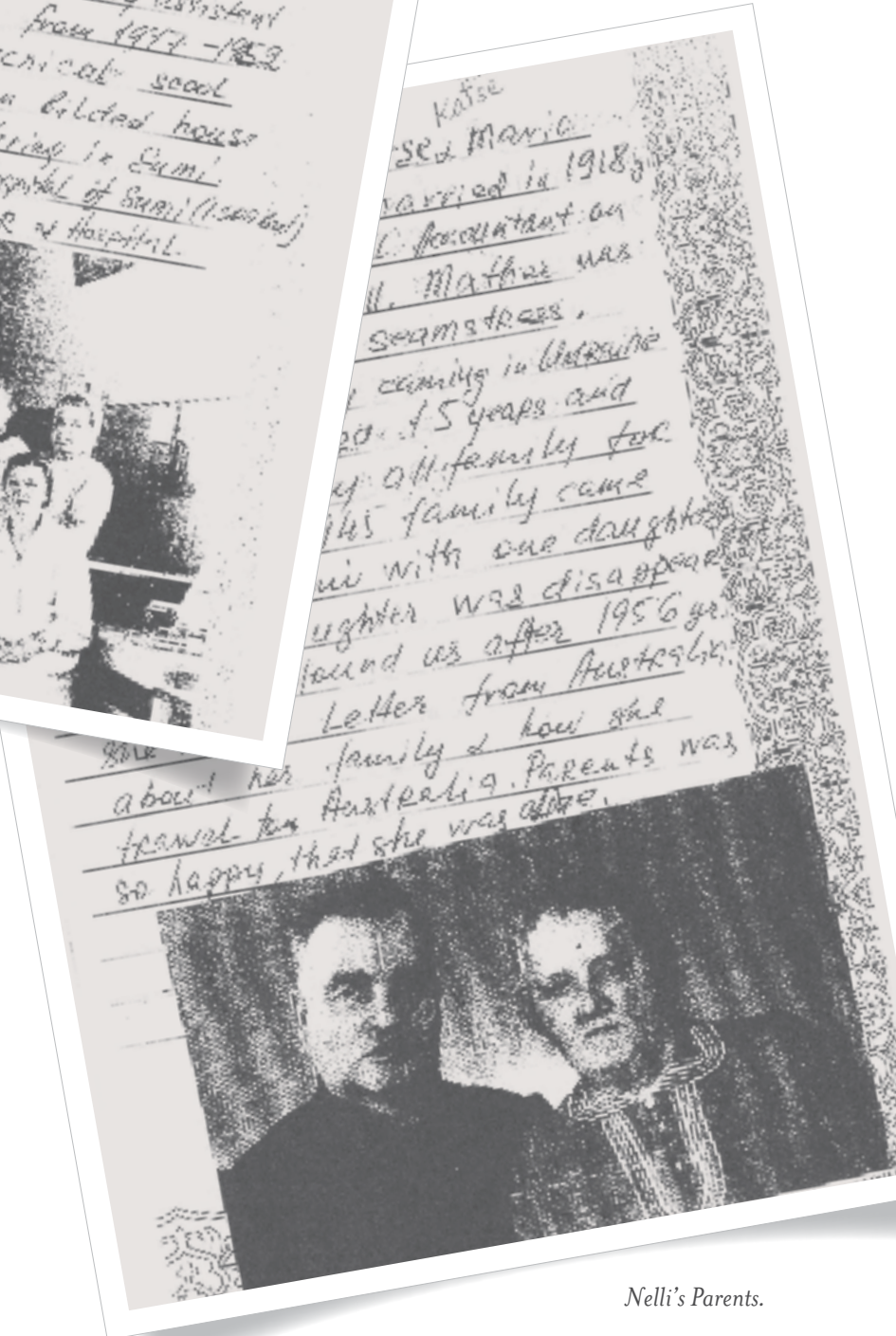
1957 Nelli and family.



1992 Nelli and Husband (Before arrived to Australia).



My Favourite music is Classic, Tango, Waltz and the polka. My favourite songs are Russian and Ukraine songs. I enjoy reading books like Anna Karenina by Tolstoy and books by Roman Rollan, M. Gorkiy and Nekrasov. I like to watch movies like War & Peace and Two Captains. I like cooking, sewing, gardening and embroidery.



Nelli's Parents.

ANASTASIJA TRAJKOVSKI

BORN IN MACEDONIA ON THE
6TH FEBRUARY 1923.



Home has been Macedonia and Australia.

We lived a hard life in Macedonia, therefore I felt quite fortunate to have spent most of my mature years in Australia.

I enjoy Macedonian folk music from the 1930's to 1940's era. I also enjoy cooking, cleaning, socialising with friends and going to the local shopping centre.

I found it quite difficult when my husband passed away, as I loved and respected him dearly.

I like my food very much. I eat three meals a day plus snacks. I will confess that I have a bit of a sweet tooth.

I have always like my appearance to be clean and tidy, by my clothes being pressed and my hair being brushed. I guess you could say I'm a little pedantic about it.

My favourite TV program is Bold and the Beautiful and Neighbours. My favourite pastime would have to be knitting.

My family (son and granddaughters) are quite important to me.

I was born in Macedonia on the 6th February 1923 to Marko (father) and Mara (mother). I was one of nine children.

I was good at helping my family with chores around the house. I enjoyed baking and cooking.

I was married at the age of 21. I had 3 children and lived with immediate family in a village in Macedonia.

Daily chores included cooking,

making fresh bread in the mornings, cleaning and looking after the men in the household as well as my own children.

I didn't go to school, nor have I ever had a working paid job. I was too busy being a house wife and mother to my three children, Zivko, Ilinka and Katerina.

I remember I was traded for some gold and cattle. That was the standard thing back in the day. I have been very close with my son Zivko.

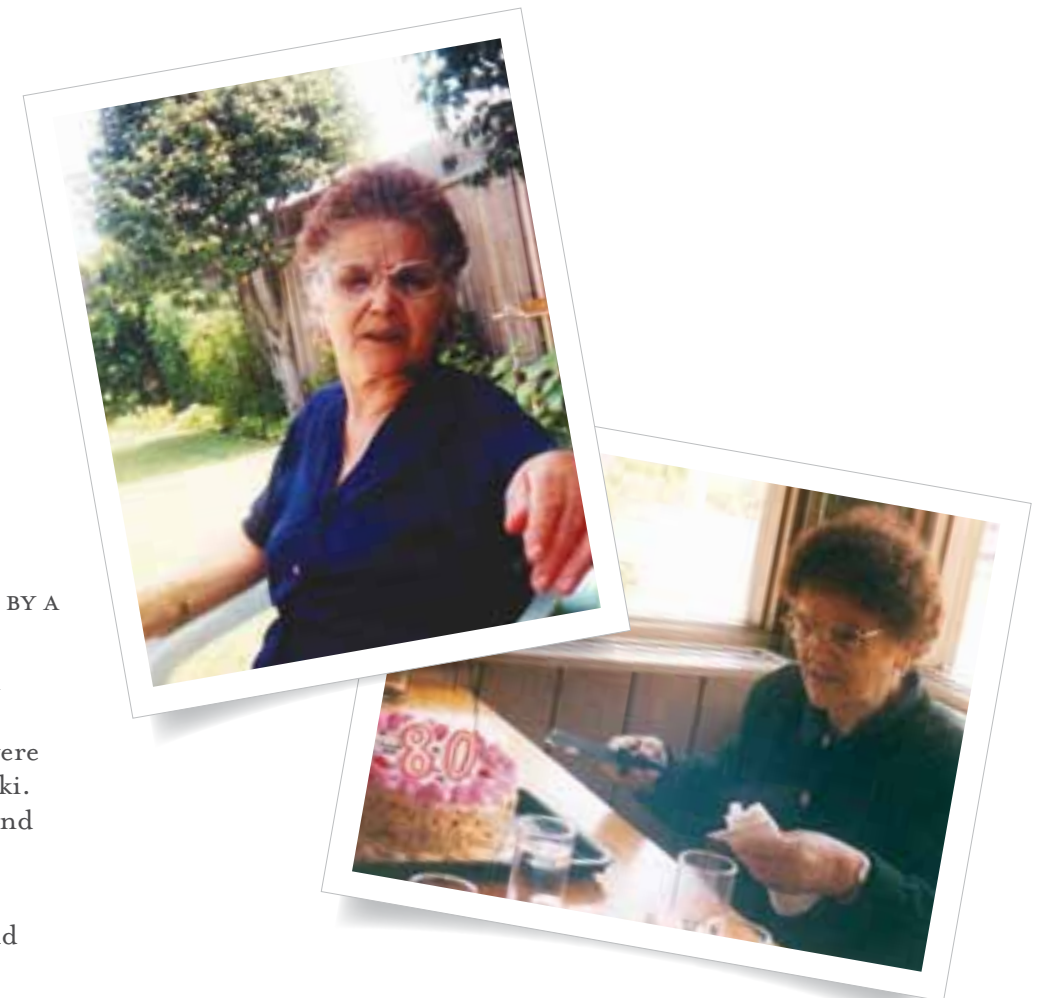
ADDED EXTRA AS WRITTEN BY A FAMILY MEMBER:

Anastasija Markovska born 06/02/1923 in Tepavci Macedonia. Her parents were Marko and Maria Markovski. Anastasija has 2 brothers and 3 three sisters.

At the age of 21 Anastasija got married to her husband Alexander Trajkovski.

She then moved to the village of Gniles. Anastasija moved into a relatively big family and her duties consisted of housekeeping and working on a farm. Duties consisted of cooking for the family. She made a lot of bread and she worked a lot on the farm by maintaining crops. Anastasija lived in Gniles for 25 years, and had three children; two girls called Kata and Ilinka and one son called Zivko. After living in Gniles for quite a long time the family decided to move into the city which they did.

In 1972 they moved Bitola. Anastasija and the family lived in Bitola till 1985.



Throughout the years as the kids grew older all three by this stage had already moved and were living in Australia. Both Alexander and Anastasija decided to leave Bitola and move to Australia to be with their kids. Three weeks into their holiday tragedy occurred, Alexander suffered as stroke and passed away. It was extremely devastating and Anastasija was left a widow at the age of 55. Following on she soon after moved in with her son Zivko and she live with Zivko and his family for 28 years. She loved her grandchildren dearly and has 5 grandchildren all together.

As a person she was extremely domesticated at home. She loved to cook, clean and her hobbies consisted of knitting, gardening and she like to sing. Her favourite food consists of pizza and she has a sweet tooth for cakes and sweets in general.

Her favourite TV shows are neighbours and the bold and the beautiful.

Congratulations to Anastasija on a milestone of getting to 91 in February of this year.

MICHAEL WASYLENKO



Michael and Maria in Ukraine.



Ukrainian major city.

Michael attending a Seniors Tea Dance, Ukraine.



Good Morning, Good Afternoon or Good Evening. Whatever your time is, I will greet you before you read something about me.

I Michael Wasylenko was born on the 15th May 1922, in Ukraine.

I came by ship in 1949 on Wooster Victory which left Naples on the 24/04/1949 and arrived in Melbourne on 24/05/1949.

I left my parents in Ukraine during the war when I was 18 and since that time I never saw them again.

I was lucky to have the opportunity of visiting Ukraine accompanied by Maria Smith who worked at that time for the Ukrainian Elderly Peoples Home T/A Kalyna Care. Whilst over in my country I attended a seniors tea dance, oh how I enjoyed that.

It felt so good to be back home, but unfortunately after such a length of absence from home, most of the things I saw appeared new to me.

I remember my first job was with a German Coal Mine.

I worked there for 2 years. The memories I have of work is that I travelled a lot in Australia doing some general work jobs and at a later stage I drove a truck. I experienced a lot of difficulties as I moved from one place to another, because communications were a barrier in that I could neither speak, write nor read English at that time. I had then taught myself to speak English not by attending English lessons but by hearing people speaking it.

This was a painful way of learning the language however I was determined.

I am now a widow.

I enjoy eating chicken soup and watching football.

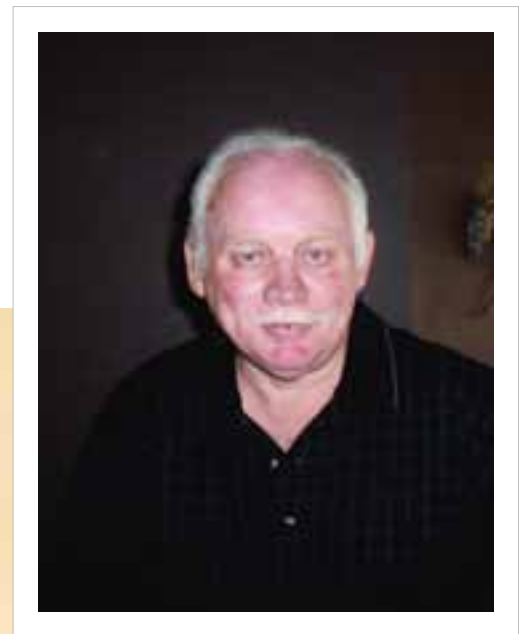
I wish I could turn back the hands of time and become young again.

GEOFFREY WHITE

GEOFFREY IVAN WHITE (PREFERS TO BE CALLED GEOFF) WAS BORN IN AUSTRALIA ON THE 29TH AUGUST 1952 AT THE ROYAL WOMEN'S HOSPITAL TO IVAN AND SYLVIA.



Geoffrey as a baby.



Geoffrey's Mum & Dad.



Geoff was the 1st child in a family of 4, being brothers Neil, Robert and Sister Lynette. Geoff has some fond memories of being a child, one that stood out was receiving his junior swimming certificate when everyone else had completed the race. Geoff kept dog paddling till he finished.

Geoff started working at the age of 17 as a counter salesman which he did for 2 years. Then worked as a Taxi driver for about 20 years, which he enjoyed as he was able to meet new people and have a good yarn with them.

Geoff would go to Olympic Park every Monday night to bet on the dogs, most nights he would lose, however one night he backed a winner and remembers winning \$20,000.

Geoff is a devoted supporter of the AFL team Essendon (bombers), he has been a member since the age of 10. Geoff's fondest memories of his football team would have to be the 1965 grand final where Essendon had won over St Kilda, which his mum Sylvia had taken him to as

his dad had to work. Geoff was happily shocked and thankful that his mother said she would take him, and he believes that it made the two of them closer. Geoff also likes soccer and cricket. Geoff's hero would have to be cricketer Jeff Thompson. If he had to pick a favourite car it would have to be a grey 1965 HT Holden.





KALYNA CARE

344 Taylors Road, Delahey Victoria 3037

T 9367 8055 F 9310 7943

E info@ueph.com.au www.kalynaagedcare.com.au

Ukrainian Elderly Peoples Home Trading as Kalyna Care. ABN 57 006 305 844 ACN 006 305 844