

Howard, Paul Russell 1939 – 11 April 2023

Minute of Record

A memorial Meeting for Paul Howard was held in Box Hill on April 28. Mornington Meeting contributed a Memorial Minute, which is attached to these Minutes. This will be forwarded to the AYM office for inclusion in the Quaker Biographies (also on the AYM website) and will be included in the YM23 Memorial Meeting.

Testimonial for Paul Russell Howard: 1939-2023

Believing in the worth of every person, Paul Howard demonstrated throughout his lifetime care and concern for everyone who crossed his path. Not only was he a devoted husband, father, and grandfather, but also a friend to anyone in need. He demonstrated a loyalty to the Quaker values of simplicity, peace, integrity, community, equality, and leadership.

Paul was a problem-solver recognised for finding practical solutions at every level from home gardening to managing a major company. He consistently offered his support to family, friends, and co-workers. He was active on community committees and boards, and especially an involved parent at Camberwell Grammar where his children studied. The Head Mistress there seriously relied on his leadership contributions.

Born and raised in Tasmania, Paul was influenced by the example of his father, a dedicated Police Officer who organised the State's Search and Rescue Service. Paul and his brother assisted their father in numerous rescues acquiring valuable knowledge and skills which he applied in emergency situations he encountered throughout his lifetime.

His love for sports, particularly football, was known by his entire family and many friends. Later in life he shared sailing adventures with his oldest son, prior to Andrew's passing. He wholeheartedly supported all his children and grandchildren in their respective sports interests.

Paul was an active member of any community organisation to which he belonged. He joined the Men's Shed in Mornington in August 2012, one of the original 50 men to attend the inaugural meeting. Initially, he was a member of the Planning Committee, then became President when the first president stepped down due to health issues. As a committed member, he guided several Men's Shed activities. After moving to the city from Mornington, he maintained a keen interest in the organisation's growth and progress as it remained close to his heart.

He and his wife, Elspeth, were instrumental in forming the Mornington Peninsula Quaker Meeting. They offered their home in Somers for Sunday worship, and then in Mornington in later years. They often entertained on holidays and special occasions. Paul and Elspeth's generosity was appreciated by all who knew them.

The inspirational quote by Etienne de Grellet encapsulates the essence of Paul Howard:
"I shall pass this way but once; any good that I can do or any kindness I can show to any human being, let me do it now. Let me not defer nor neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again."

Victoria Regional Meeting, Meeting for Worship for Business, 4 June 2023, Minute 4.4.

Notice

A Memorial Meeting to give thanks for the life of Paul Howard will be held at the Box Hill Community Art Centre, 470 Station Street, on April 28 at 3 p.m.

Victoria Regional Meeting, e-Notes, 15 April 2023.

Notice

We have received a call from Elspeth Howard. Paul passed away in the early hours of this morning. She is grateful for [our] offer to pass on the news. Their sons are with Elspeth now and [we] know that the whole family will support her. Elspeth and Paul held the Mornington Meeting for many years, before moving to their retirement home in Burwood, Victoria.

Victoria Regional Meeting e-Notes, 11 April 2023.