

Lewis, Ian Calder 1923 - 9 March 2022

Testimony to the grace of God in the life of Ian Calder Lewis 1923 - 2022

Born in Armidale NSW in 1923. Ian attended Gordon Public School NSW, North Sydney Boys High, St Paul's in London and Wales.

He graduated in Medicine from the Edinburgh University in 1949. Called up for National Service, he became the Chief Medical Officer in the RAF Hospital Ely, Cambridge, responsible for the rehabilitation of injured service personnel. He returned to Edinburgh to complete his Paediatric training in 1954.

Cynthia, his wife, was his greatest supporter, companion, and confidante. They had three children. Ian loved and cared for Cynthia in her later years. Ian freely gave his love, time and energy to his family, friends and in his professional roles to those around him. He was a giver, not a taker.

The family moved to Australia in 1956. Ian was appointed Senior Medical Officer at the Princess Margaret Hospital for children in Perth. Ian was successful in engaging with indigenous families in WA by approaching them as equals and asking to work with them. He was invited by the Elders to visit Aboriginal settlements in remote locations across WA where he was welcomed as a friend.

Ian and his family moved to Hobart, Tasmania in 1968 where he took up various roles. He was Professor of Child Health, University of Tasmania, Paediatrician Royal Hobart Hospital, and Adviser in Child Health Government of Tasmania, Dean, Faculty of Medicine University of Tasmania.

Ian's desire to improve the health of children led to many academic and professional achievements, always driven by his concern for others and the provision of equitable health care. Ian listened well, was observant, innovative and the catalyst for many significant changes and research projects in health care for children and adults that have led to an improvement in health for many.

After retiring from the University of Tasmania, Ian served at the Fiji School of Medicine 1989-1991. Always an encouraging teacher to those around him, he was generous in sharing his time and knowledge.

Members of Tasmania Regional Meeting who had encountered him professionally found Ian to be a man of integrity and peace. Many who interacted with him recall his good nature, mischievousness and humour. He exhibited gentleness and kindness and humour always with a twinkle in his eye. Ian always took a lively interest in people and events around him and contributed a thoughtful, caring and often humorous energy to many professional and private gatherings.

He valued his well-being and had a lifelong discipline in maintaining his health by walking and swimming and was well known for his squash skills and healthy competitiveness in his younger years.

Ian was a shining light, there is nowhere that he has been throughout his life that has not felt the impact of his love, care and compassion for humanity.

Ian truly “walked cheerfully over the earth greeting that of God in everyone”.

We give thanks for the Grace of God in the life of our Friend, Ian Lewis.

Minute of Record

We ask Ministry to propose a date for a Meeting of Thanksgiving for the life of our Friend Ian Lewis, and to contact the family to let them know of our proposal and to invite them to attend.

Tasmania Regional Meeting for Worship for Business, 1 May 2022, Minute 4.2.

Minute of Record

We hear with sadness of the death of our Friend, Ian Lewis, on 9 March 2022 and we ask the Ministry Committee to appoint two writers to prepare a Testimony to the Grace of God in his life.

Tasmania Regional Meeting for Worship for Business, 3 April 2022, Minute 4.3.