

Clarence Robert Cork 1917 - 2001



Clarence (Bruiser) and his twin Aubrey (Aub) were born at home in Maleny (no hospitals at that stage) on June 11, 1917. The twins had an older Sister, Beryl. Clarence had a happy childhood even though times were tough. Things became worse in the 1930 depression days and the family existed a lot on bread and dripping.

Later, their father was able to buy a Whippet car and then a Chevrolet which they took on a trip back down to Milton NSW, where they had moved from when Beryl was about 1 year old. The family caught up with many relatives.

Clarence started school life in Caloundra due to his father becoming ill. The family left the farm while he was recovering. Later, Aubrey was also laid up for some months with an infection in the spine which left him with curvature of the spine.

They had plenty of happy weekends and holidays down at Caloundra, travelling at first by sulky down the very steep and winding road and later on by car. There was a great excitement when they saw the blue of the sea on the distant horizon. In their teens they enjoyed many fun times at dances where their sister Beryl played the piano. Clarence and Aubrey were good cricketers with both playing for Maleny.

After leaving school, Clarence worked for 5 years with Alan Waters Plumbers. During the war years he worked in slaughter yards in Caloundra for Traill Brothers supplying meat to the armed forces, who were camped at Caloundra. He later went into share farming with Aubrey and also had a milk run together. Clarence then learnt the building trade with Jim Rapp of Maleny, with many of the houses he built still standing today.

Clarence (Bruiser) met his wife Olive when she was a nurse at Maleny hospital. They lived in Maleny, where they had two daughters, Glenda in 1953 and Pamela in 1956. The family then moved to Deception Bay and farmed pumpkins until 1975 when they sold the farm and retired to Kawana on the Sunshine Coast.





Clarence & Olive

They were fortunate to buy a block of land on the ocean front, where Clarence built their new home. They had a great life there together pursuing their new hobby of fishing.

Unfortunately ageing brought health problems and after a stroke Bruiser lost the use of his right arm and had his right leg amputated. Scooters then became the main mode of transport to the beachfront and to the shops.

Bruiser passed away of an aneurysm on the 2/5/2001 aged 83.

Happy heavenly 106th birthday to Clarence and Aubrey on 11th June 2023.



Twins on their 70th birthdays - Aub & Bruiser Cork