

# Margy Watson



**1961 - 2013**



## Margy Watson

Born in Mundubbera Queensland in 1961, Margy (Margaret Joy) Watson, grew up in Brisbane with maternal family links to Mount Isa and paternal links to Maryborough and Burrum Heads. Following her school years, Margy travelled to Tasmania in 1981 where she met her future husband, Keith Kuchenmeister. She completed a Fine Arts Degree at the Hobart University. Their first son Alex Watson was born in 1986. In 1988, the young family moved to Maleny. Their second son Dan Watson was born in 1989 and the family moved to Tamarind Street where they still reside today.

Margy began her educational career in 1991 as a primary teacher-aide at Maleny State School. Returning to study she completed a post graduate teaching degree taking up positions, firstly at the Montessorri School at Buderim and then at the Maleny Ananda Marga River School. Following her interests, Margy became a Special Needs teacher at Maleny State School and Maleny High School. Her education career spanned over 20 years.

Margy was committed to children's education, especially those students who faced learning difficulties. Her concern for children saw Margy take up a position in 2006 with the Queensland Commission for Children and Young People until the onset of ill-health in late 2012.

A descendant of the Waanyi Aboriginal people of North West Queensland, Margy's community interests in young people saw her represent Aboriginal children in schools. She successfully obtained funding for a performance, a camp and murals at the Primary and High Schools. She joined the 'The Women Out Front' group which assisted and encouraged young female artists. Margy was also successful in obtaining a grant to provide a playground at The Ananda Marga River School.

From a young age, Margy was always engaged with making things, from basketry to sewing. At Art School she completed beautiful drawings and portraits. She was very engaged visually and her photographs reflect that. Her garden was always lush and carefully tended and a source of joy and sustenance for all who visited.

On 11 October after receiving 50 days of beautiful, loving care at the Maleny Hospital, and surrounded by family and friends, Margy passed on. She will be greatly missed by her family, friends and all who knew her.