

OLGA FRANCES WEBSTER.

22/2/1924 – 7/5/2020

Olga Frances Webster (nee` Nothling), the 7th child of a 7th child (her Dad) was born at the Soldiers Memorial Hospital Maleny on 22 February 1924, a very proud descendant of Martin Julius Nothling, one of the early settlers of the Witta District. Her parents, Bernhardt and Ida Nothling had 7 daughters and 1 son. Dorothea and Ethel (twins), Sylvia, Alma, son Len, Ida, Olga and Cynthia.

She rode her horse 3 miles to attend the Curramore School where Beryl Newton (nee` Roberts) was her teacher.



Curramore School 1935

Back Row - Bruce ?, Eunice Boxsell, Rita Thorne, Olga Nothling, Keith Boxsell
Middle Row - ? Cavanagh, Enid Rapp, Bev Rapp, Lesley Nothling, Murray Rapp
Front Row - Ross Ekert, Gordon Boxsell, Donny Boxsell

In order to sit for the Scholarship Examination she transferred to the 2 teacher school at nearby Witta. From there, 2 years later, she completed her Junior Examination at Commercial High School in Brisbane.

It was a bit of a cultural shock to attend a school of over 300 students compared to 50. Not only that, she had to contend with trams and trains – a bit different to a horse.

She was fortunate to gain a position with Harry Lyon as assistant office girl at his garage and large carrying business which was the hub of a very diverse farming community activities.

After 6 years there she married local dairyfarmer Alan Webster and moved from Witta to Wootha where she lived for over 70 years until her move to Woodford prior to her passing.

Olga and Alan were a team, Alan was very involved in the Dairy Industry, Maleny Dairy Co-operative, Tennis, National Party. School Committees and St. Georges and Parish council to name a few and President of most, this often saw Olga holding the fort at home, raising 3 children, Ken, Rodney and Ruth while milking and all associated farm activities which included feeding the calves and pigs. As well as this there was the bookwork for the various organisation when Alan was Treasurer (and there were quite a few over the years) In her own right she was St Georges Church Treasurer for many years.

Olga and Alan loved their garden and were there at the Foundation of the Maleny District Horticultural Society in 1952. This later became known as the Garden Club and she remained a member and 67 years later was made a Life Member.

For many years she was a Steward at the Horticultural Section of the Maleny Show, her passion for camelia's saw her take out many prizes and in turn led her to be a popular judge at local camelia shows including St Mary's Montville, and was quite an expert. She became known as the "Camelia Lady" a title she took with much pride.

Olga was very musical, she delighted in playing by ear and would make many a piano 'sing' and enjoyed nothing more than singalongs around her beloved 'family heirloom piano' with family and friends or anyone who wanted to join in.

She enjoyed many a holiday trip with the Senior Citizens, Probus and Garden Club or just with Alan, and would make many friends with others on those trips. One a train trip across the Nullarbor Olga found a piano on board and evenings would be spent around the piano, no music, accompanying the happily singing passengers just for the pure joy of it. This would have happened wherever she found a piano, she could not help herself.

Olga took much delight in nature, her garden, flowers - camelia's especially, music and her family and friends.

She valued the friendship of all her acquaintances and for this I thank you all.

She had 3 children, 9 Grandchildren and 9 Great-Grandchildren and loved them all dearly and took a keen interest in all their activities.

To me she was a loving, caring Mother who gave her all to all of us.

We miss her but are comforted in the knowledge that she is now at peace and safe in the arms of Jesus.

Her ashes have been placed at the Witta Cemetary Colombarium beside Dad and amongst many of her family and friends.

Thank you to the Mothers' Union Members, Rev'd Kaye Pitman and Judy Payne and the ladies who have contributed to the refreshments we are about to enjoy and Thank you all for your caring and presence here today.

Eulogy Prepared and presented by Ken Webster for St Georges Mothers' Union Memorial Service for Olga, May 2021.



From the Webster Family
Collaged by Maleny Historical Memories - Desley Malone