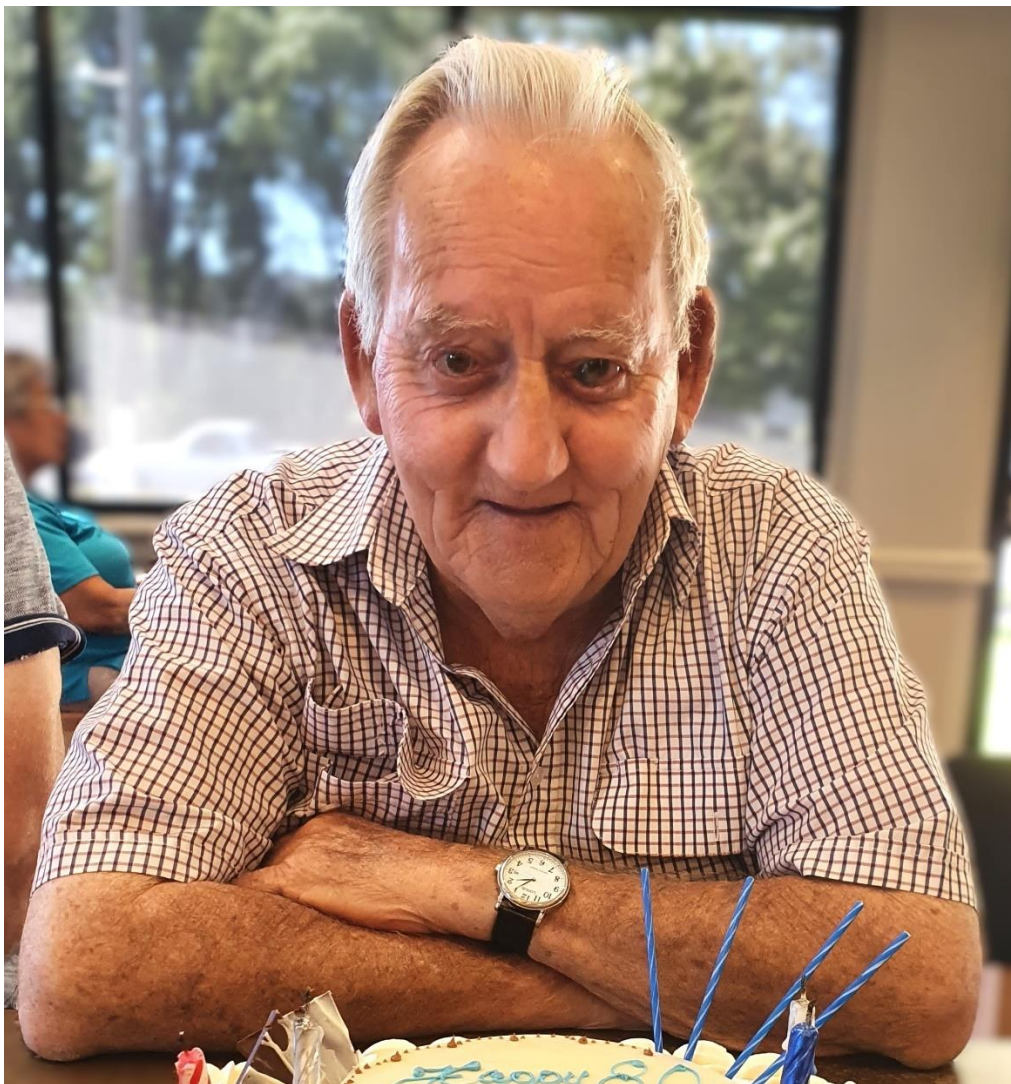




Requiem Mass
in loving memory of

Leon Hubert Richardson

9 April 1941 – 5 November 2024



Sacred Heart Griffith

Saturday 16 November at 10.00am



Leon – Delta Stud, Jerilderie, 1963

Leon Richardson

Loving husband of

Lyn

Loving father and father-in-law of

Racheal, Micheal and Olga

Loving brother and brother-in-law of

*Brian (deceased) & May, Barbara (deceased), Veronica;
Lee & Chris; and Annette & Terry*

Loving uncle of

*Mark, Paul, Jane, Philp and David; Brendan and Roland;
Nicole (dec) and Stephen; and Sarah*

Loving adopted grandfather of

Tim, James, Daniel, Kate & Sarah

Loving adopted great-grandfather of

*Lukas, Keegan, Montana, Myke, Ziggy, Kalleigh, Peyton, Cooper,
Rhyder, and Lianah*

Pall Bearers

*Micheal Richardson, Philip Richardson, Roland Quast,
Daniel Milne, Michael Riggs and Matt Sayer*

Priests

Fr Connell Perry

Fr Paul Hart

Organist

Belinda Aventi

Vocalists

Mechlene Nehme

Entrance Hymn: *Amazing Grace*

Please stand

PRIEST: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

ALL: **Amen.**

PRIEST: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

ALL: **And with your spirit.**

PRIEST: In the waters of baptism, Leon died with Christ and rose with him to new life. May he now share with him eternal glory.

Opening Prayer

PRIEST: O God, almighty Father, our faith professes that your Son died rose again; mercifully grant, that through this mystery your servant Leon, who has fallen asleep in Christ, may rejoice to rise again through him. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

ALL: **Amen**

Please sit

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading

Read by: Elvio Suine (Leon's long-term friend)

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles 2: 1-6

When Pentecost day came round, they had all met in one room, when suddenly they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven, the noise of which filled the entire house in which they were sitting; and something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak foreign languages as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech. Now there were devout men living in Jerusalem from every nation under heaven, and at this sound they all assembled, each one bewildered to hear these men speaking his own language.

This is the word of the Lord.

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

All SING: The Lord is my shepherd (23rd Psalm)

Second Reading

Read by: Lee Whant (Leon's sister-in-law) from Leon's bible

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Corinthians Chapter 13

If I have all the eloquence of men or of angels, but speak without love, I am simply a gong booming or a cymbal clashing. If I have the gift of prophecy, understanding all the mysteries there are, and knowing everything, and if I have faith in all its fullness, to move mountains, but without love, then I am nothing at all. If I give away all that I possess, piece by piece, and if I even let them take my body to burn it, but am without love, it will do me no good whatever.

Love is always patient and kind; it is never jealous; love is never boastful or conceited; it is never rude or selfish; it does not take offence and is not resentful. Love takes no pleasure in other people's sins but delights in the truth; it is always ready to excuse, to trust, to hope, and to endure whatever comes. Love does not come to an end.

But if there are gifts of prophecy, the time will come when they must fail; or the gift of languages, it will not continue for ever; and knowledge – for this, too, the time will come when it must fail. For our knowledge is imperfect and our prophesying is imperfect; but once perfection comes, all imperfect things will disappear.

When I was a child, I used to talk like a child, and think like a child, and argue like a child, but now I am a man, all childish ways are put behind me. Now we are seeing a dim reflection in a mirror; but then we shall be seeing face to face. The knowledge that I have now is imperfect; but then I shall know as fully as I am known. In short, there are three things that last: faith, hope and love; and the greatest of these is love.

This is the word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Please stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**ALL: Alleluia, alleluia. I am the resurrection and the life, said the Lord:
He who believes in me will not die for ever. Alleluia**

GOSPEL

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew 5:1-12 (The Beatitudes)

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountains; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:
Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek for they will inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice be glad, for your reward is heaven.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

ALL: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

Please sit

HOMILY



Leon as a little fulla with his parents, and older siblings, Barbara and Brian. 1944



Leon riding Bonny at Leopardwood Park. c. 1949



Leon off to Cadets. c. 1956

Leon off to a dance. c. 1960



Leon married Lyn. 1965

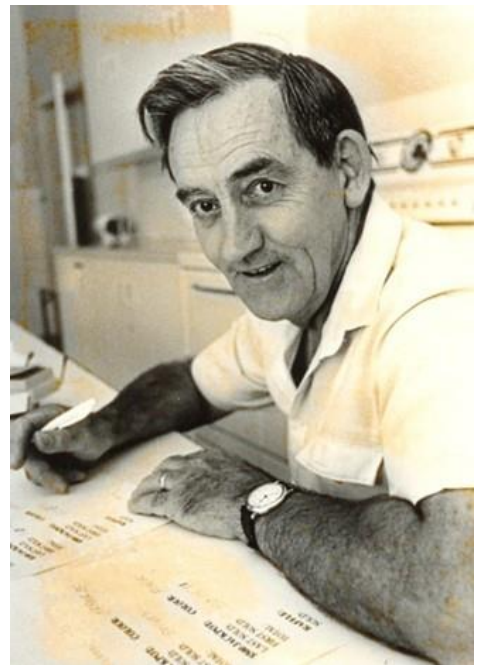
Lyn and Leon with
Racheal and Micheal. 1971



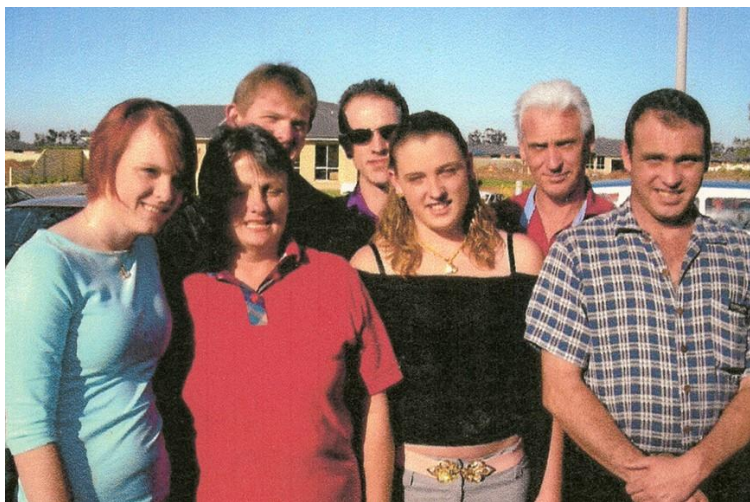


Leon, Racheal, Lyn and Micheal c. 1982

Leon organising PCYC charity Events. 1985



Michael and Olga's Wedding. 1993



Adopted grandchildren
– The Milne Family. 2008

Lyn and Leon off to a wedding. 2002



47th Men's Cursillo
"Jesus it's me again". 2014

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Please stand

Read by: Michael Carnell (Leon's long-term friend)

PRIEST: Christ is the Good Shepherd who gives his life to save those he loves. In our loss, let us turn to him and with confidence make our needs known to him.

READER: For Leon we pray for the gift of eternal life, Lord, receive him into your loving embrace. Lord hear us.

ALL: Lord, hear our prayer.

READER: For all who knew and loved Leon, Lord, may we draw inspiration from his life. Lord hear us.

ALL: Lord, hear our prayer.

READER: For family and friends, especially those grieving alone, Lord may they be consoled in their grief. Lord hear us.

ALL: Lord, hear our prayer.

READER: For all of the carers, the palliative care nurses and Racheal, who cared for, and supported, Leon in the last years of his life. Lord hear us.

ALL: Lord, hear our prayer.

PRIEST: Father into your hands we commend the soul of our brother Leon. Look gently upon him and bring him home to your kingdom where death will be no more. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

ALL: Amen.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Offertory Hymn: *On Eagles' Wings*

Please sit

PRIEST: Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received the bread we offer you: fruit of the earth and work of human hands, it will become for us the bread of life.

ALL: Blessed be God for ever.

PRIEST: By the mystery of this water and wine may we come to share in the divinity of Christ, who humbled himself to share in our humanity. Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received the wine we offer you: fruit of the vine and work of human hands, it will become our spiritual drink.

ALL: Blessed be God for ever.

With humble spirit and contrite heart may we be accepted by you, O Lord, and may our sacrifice in your sight this day be pleasing to you, Lord God.

Wash me, O Lord from my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.

Invitation to Prayer

PRIEST: Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

ALL: **May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.**

Prayers over the Gifts

PRIEST: As we humbly present to you these sacrificial offerings, O Lord, for the salvation of your servant Leon, we beseech your mercy that he, who did not doubt your Son to be a loving Saviour, may find in him a merciful Judge. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

ALL: **Amen.**

Please stand

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

PRIEST: The Lord be with you.

ALL: **And with your spirit.**

PRIEST: Lift up your hearts.

ALL: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

PRIEST: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

ALL: **It is right and just.**

PRIEST: It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Christ our Lord. In him the hope of blessed resurrection has dawned, that those saddened by the certainty of dying might be consoled by the promise of immortality to come. Indeed, for your faithful, Lord, life is changed, not ended, and, when this earthly dwelling turns to dust, an eternal dwelling is made ready for them in heaven. And so, with Angels and Archangels, with Thrones and Dominions, and with all the hosts and Powers of heaven, we sing the hymn of your glory, as without end we acclaim:

PRIEST & ALL:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER II

Please kneel

PRIEST: You are indeed Holy, O Lord, the fount of all holiness. Make holy, therefore, these gifts, we pray, by sending down your Spirit upon them like the dewfall, of that they may become for us the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. At the time he was betrayed and entered willingly into his Passion, he took bread and, giving thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take this, all of you, and eat of it, for this is my body, which will be given up for you. In a similar way, when supper was ended, he took the chalice and, once more giving thanks, he gave it to disciples, saying: take this, all of you, and drink from it, for this is the chalice of my blood, the blood the new and eternal covenant, which will be poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in memory of me.

The mystery of faith

ALL: Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.

PRIEST: Therefore, as we celebrate the memorial of his Death and Resurrection, we offer you, Lord, the Bread of life and the Chalice of salvation, giving thanks that you have held us worthy to be in your presence and minister to you. Humbly we pray that, partaking of the Body and Blood of Christ, we may be gathered into one by the Holy Spirit. Remember, Lord, your Church, spread throughout the world, and bring her to the fullness of charity, together with Francis our Pope, Mark our Bishop and all the clergy. Remember your servant Leon, whom you have called from this world to yourself. Grant that he who was united with your Son in a death like his, may also be one with him in his Resurrection. Remember also our brothers and sisters who have

fallen asleep in the hope of the resurrection, and all who have died in your mercy: welcome them into the light of your face. Have mercy on us all, we pray, that with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, with Blessed Joseph, her Spouse, with the blessed Apostles, and with all the Saints who have pleased you throughout the ages, we may praise and glorify you through your Son, Jesus Christ. Through him, and with him, and in him, O God, almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour is yours, for ever and ever.

ALL: Amen.

Communion Rite

Please Stand

The Lord's Prayer

PRIEST: At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

PRIEST & ALL: **Our Father who art in heaven hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.**

PRIEST: Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the help of your mercy, we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we wait the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

ALL: For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever.

Sign of Peace

The priest says the prayer for peace: Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your Apostles:

Peace I leave you, my peace I give you; look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and graciously grant her peace and unity in accordance with your will.

Who live and reign for ever and ever.

ALL: Amen

PRIEST: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

ALL: And with your spirit.

PRIEST: Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

The people exchange a sign of peace

PRIEST & ALL: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
Have mercy on us
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
Have mercy on us
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
Grant us peace.

COMMUNION

Please kneel

PRIEST: Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

PRIEST & ALL: **Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say word and my soul shall be healed.**

Communion Hymn: *Change my Heart oh God.*

Prayer After Communion

Please stand

PRIEST: Let us pray. Lord God, whose Son left us in the sacrament of his Body, food for the journey, mercifully grant that, strengthened by it, our sister Lyn may come to the eternal table of Christ.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

ALL: **Amen.**

WORDS OF REMEMBRANCE

Racheal Richardson (Leon's daughter)

Slide show: *Jesus it's me again.*

FINAL COMMENDATION AND FAREWELL

ALL: **Receive his soul and present him to God the Most High.**

Recessional Hymn: *How Great Thou Art*



Leon and Lyn – Lake Wyangan, Griffith, 2020

Do not grieve that he is gone but rejoice that he was here.



The Richardson Family would like to express their deep gratitude for your kind thoughts and prayers, and your attendance here today.

At Leon's request, there is no wake, but the family will gather at the Southside Leagues Club for a coffee, drinks and lunch if you would like to join them after Leon's interment.



Griffith Regional Funeral Services

(02) 6964 4473