



**In Loving Memory  
of  
Norman John Menz**



**Bearers:** Gary Menz                      Keith Braun  
              Trevor Menz                     Jamie Thomas  
              Bradley Menz                    Mathew Menz

**Minister**            Pastor Darrin Kohrt

**Altschwager Funerals**

*Norm's family would like to thank you for all your prayers, sympathy, love, and support. We are very aware of those who desired to be in attendance but were prevented by the current restrictions.*

**Born: 8th April, 1933  
Baptised: 10th September, 1933**

**Died: 17th May, 2020  
Aged 87**

**Loxton Lawn Cemetery  
5 June 2020**

## Order of Service

### Welcome

### THE INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

### REMINDER OF BAPTISM

As we come here in our grief to farewell Norm, St Paul comforts us with these words: Don't you know that all of us who were baptised into Christ Jesus were baptised into his death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. If we have been united with him like this in his death, we will certainly also be united with him in his resurrection.

### PRAYER

### OBITUARY

Norman John Menz - Norm

Born in Pinnaroo on April 8<sup>th</sup> 1933 - May 17<sup>th</sup> 2020 at Naracoorte.

The 5<sup>th</sup> child of Father Hermann (Albert) & Ethel Annie Menz (nee Stead) - with 4 brothers and 2 sisters - Albert (Boy), Ron, Peter, Joy, Noreen and Stan. Norm has been called to join his brothers and sister Joy after having 87 years with us. Noreen Matulick is his only surviving sibling.

He was baptised in Mootatunga, September 10<sup>th</sup> 1933 - he was almost baptised as Norma Jean instead of Norman John.

The family grew up at Kringin and were among the first settlers in the district. Dad said there were tennis courts, a football oval, racecourse, school hall, post office and railway station - today it is barely noticeable that any township existed.

Norm loved sheep from a young age and whenever Pop (his Dad) was working with sheep he was allowed to stay home from school. Norm was so keen on sheep he would tell people that he would have a thousand sheep one day and carry them wherever he went. Well he certainly achieved his dream of owning 1000 sheep and many more and continued his love of sheep and merino wool throughout his farming life.

After drought and depression the family moved to Paringa and he went to primary school at Renmark. He was good at playing Draughts and was school champion, and liked woodwork classes. He started playing cricket and football at primary school and went by train from

Christ is risen! Alleluia!  
**He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**  
Let us go forth in peace.  
**In the name of the Lord.**

### *graveside tribute*



### *A tribute from Barbara:*

Although you sleep in Heaven now, You're not that far away.  
My heart is full of memories and you're with me everyday.  
You lived your life with meaning and with a smile upon your face.  
A world that was full of happiness is now an empty place.  
People say that only time will heal a broken heart.  
But just like me and you it had been torn apart.  
I know you are at peace now  
And in a place where you are free  
Meet me at the Pearly Gates when Heaven calls for me.

**3 Through many dangers, toil, and snares  
I have already come:  
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far,  
and grace will lead me home.**

**4 The Lord has promised good to me,  
his Word my hope secures;  
he will my shield and portion be  
as long as life endures.**

John Newton 1725-1807

## **PRAYER**

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father in heaven,  
Hallowed be your name,  
Your kingdom come,  
Your will be done on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today, our daily bread,  
Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,  
Now and forever. Amen.**

### **THE COMMITAL**

Since Almighty God, our heavenly Father, in His gracious.....

May God the Father, who created this body, may God the Son, who by His blood redeemed this body, may God the Holy Spirit, who by holy baptism sanctified this body to be His temple, keep these remains till the day of the resurrection of all flesh. Amen.

### **THE BENEDICTION**

The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favour and + give you peace. Amen.

Renmark to Adelaide to play football against other schools, and beat all the big city school teams. At high school Norm added tennis to his sporting regime. His passion, determination, desire and dedication for sport was, shall we say 'embraced' with much enthusiasm - and his first true love was found.... SPORT WAS THE APPLE OF HIS EYE and his desire to win whatever he played was his ultimate goal.

Norm's Uncle Ray Stead asked if he could help with harvest and he left school later that year to help drive the tractor during harvest before moving back to Renmark to pick grapes. He went on to work at Eudunda Farmers where he would kick the football around with others in their lunch break.

He was offered farm work at Nangari, camped in a hut, rode his bike to Meribah about 33kms on weekends and went to Strawberry Fetes on Saturday nights, played tennis on Sunday mornings then rode back to Nangari. There wasn't any Colts football in Renmark, so he began playing for Meribah. He was a bit younger and smaller than the older men that he played against, but he was not phased as kids at school were usually bigger lads.

He hated the football rule back then - if you went off the oval you could not go back on for the rest of the game.

Norm and Pop would travel to the farm at Kringin and go back to Renmark on weekends and he was able to play football on Saturdays. He did National Service Training for the Army at Woodside. Norm was not suited for Army life, he didn't enjoy queuing up for everything, including every meal and was not fond of queuing up for anything after that.

Needless to say, he didn't have too much time for girls in his teenage years, in-between tennis, football and cricket, and working on various farms. He moved to the Kringin house in 1954 and bought some sheep, and played tennis for Peebinga. Norm had his 21st birthday in Renmark, and he reminisced Stan Lehmann bringing along some girls and football mates from Pinnaroo, and of course, a keg of beer, he said.

Norm was in his mid 20s when he met a young lass called Barbara Bainbridge at a dance. Love blossomed and before long they were engaged. Twelve months later they were married on 1<sup>st</sup> November, 1958 at Meribah - Norm was a handsome 25 year old and Barb, a gorgeous, almost 18 year old. Twelve months after that, a bouncing baby boy called Gary arrived, to fill their home with love. Later he was followed by Cynthia, Trevor, Bradley and Karen.

In between a busy life on the farm, sport played a big part of his life, and with sport came the social gatherings with the other lads in the region of small towns of the mallee, in particular Peebinga. He played, captained and coached football at several clubs, and was involved with Peebinga, Meribah, Ngallo, Renmark and Browns Well for many years.

In 1962, Norm bought some land from his Pop. He had sheep, and was share farming and developing new land. He bought 30 ewes and 4 flock

rams, and named the property 'Menara', combining Menz and Barbara as the farm name.

Norm has many, many stories from his football and sporting days, and has recorded them in his life story book with great detail of every game.

In 1974, Norm, Barb and family moved to the Paruna property called Korah Bore to be closer to the school bus and Paruna township, and the facilities where he played an endless supply of football, tennis, golf and bowls.

Norm loved his sheep and would enter the rams and merino wool at the Loxton, Renmark, and Pinnaroo Shows - and was very proud of his many trophies and prizes that he won every year. Trevor still has Dad's old Bedford truck that he had on the farm. Norm also leased property for many years in the South East near Padthaway and Naracoorte, to raise his sheep in greener pastures.

In 1987, Norm and Barb moved from the Paruna farm to Loxton, on Second Street. Barb found the transition to town living a little uncomfortable, but Norm loved working on the fruit block - he loved growing fruit and vegetables and began playing more and more bowls, which he was extremely passionate and serious about. He loved assisting the High School kids and coaching them with some bowling lessons.

After a few years, they moved slightly out of town to the Gratwick Rd property with a bit more space, including a lawn tennis court, from 1994 till 2014, where they had many good years.

They moved into a Retirement Unit near the Loxton Hospital to downsize in 2014. A few years later, they moved to Keith in July, 2016, to be closer to their children. They lived directly across the road from Cynthia & Keith's for almost 4 years, which was fantastic and lovely to see grandchildren and great grandchildren almost every day, and pop over to visit Cynthia and Keith most days as well, with regular visits to Trevor and Tricia's farm out of town.

Norm moved to Carinya Retirement Units in May, 2019, to be near Barb who was in Keith Aged Care facility with dementia, whom he visited and sat with every day for most of the day.

He had a sharp memory, was still active, walking every day, and was well known around town as he cruised around on his shiny red gopher and still managed to play bowls until just a year or two ago.

After being unwell from around October 2019, Norm's health declined and he knew it was time to move into Aged Care. He wanted to be in the same facility with Barb where they both moved into Naracoorte Aged Care in January, 2020.

Norm was finally diagnosed with Leukemia in Feb 2020, and

deteriorated quite quickly. He passed away peacefully in Naracoorte Aged Care on May 17th, with Barb nearby and Gary and Sharon by his side on his very last day.

Norm never parted with his bowls and kept them in the wardrobe with him until the very end.

### **The Scripture Readings:**

1 Corinthians 13:4-7 (wedding text)  
 Philippians 4:4-7  
 John 14:1-6

### **THE MESSAGE OF COMFORT**

In the face of death, let us confess our faith in the living God, and say:

#### **APOSTLES' CREED:**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God, the Father almighty, from thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

#### **Amazing Grace**

**1 Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,  
 that saved a wretch like me!  
 I once was lost, but now am found,  
 was blind, but now I see.**

**2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
 and grace my fears relieved;  
 how precious did that grace appear  
 the hour I first believed!**