

GATHERING

Opening Words

We have come together today, after laying Reg to his final rest, to honour and remember his life, to celebrate its length and richness. We come to acknowledge our sadness that he will no longer be a part of our lives as he was before. We come to recognise that we will miss him, because we have loved him, and he has loved us. Be with us O God, as we share our memories of time spent with Reg, to pay tribute to his influence in our lives and to his story. **Amen**

Reading 1: Our Dad

Our Dad

His dreams were seldom spoken,
His wants were very few;
And, most of the time, his worries
Went unspoken too.

He was there....a firm foundation
Through all our storms of life;
A sturdy hand to hold on to,
In times of stress and strife.

A true friend we could turn to,
when times were good or bad,
one of our greatest blessings,
the man who was our Dad.

Thoughts About Reg: Sharing some of his story

Reading 2: There's a Handyman in Heaven

There's a Handyman in Heaven

There's a handy man in heaven now, who realised others' dreams.
No task, no chore too onerous; he loved the challenge of extremes.
A caring, honest provider, he unselfishly gave his all;
With a loving heart and skilful hands, that responded to the call.
A Husband, a Dad, a Granddad too, who would help with any task.
A person to rely on; all you had to do was ask.

He responded to emergencies; his tools were at the ready;
Nothing was beyond his scope; he took it nice and steady.
There's a handy man in Heaven now, who's fixing Heaven's gate;
Oiling the hinges with pride and care, so they'll open for all who wait.

Saying thank you for Reg's life and remembering him.

The Lord's Prayer

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. For Thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen

A Loving Farewell

The death of someone close to us is the death of part of us.
No one else will ever call out from within us quite
the same responses, the same actions or feelings or ideas.
The death of someone close to us is an ending of one part of our story.

Now as we look back over Reg's life as a completed whole,
we ask what we have each received, what we want to continue
in our own lives, and what should now be laid to rest.
Our closeness to him reminds us that our living in families and in
community with others brings us both support and pain. Our being parted
from him reminds us of our own human frailty.

We are glad that our closeness to Reg draws us together and gives us a
new appreciation of each other, and of the beauty and fragility of the
relationships in our lives.

We are grateful for the influence of his life upon our own, and for the
opportunity to have known and loved him.

Blessing

May the special memories of Reg live on in the quiet spaces of our hearts,
returning to comfort us and make us smile at unexpected moments; and
may we know the comfort of God's presence over the coming weeks and
months. **Amen**

Committal at Gippsland Memorial Park

Almighty God, your love embraces all people. We know there is nothing in death or life, in the world as it is, or the world as it shall be; nothing in all creation that can ever separate us from your love. To you we entrust Reg, whom we have lost in death. Grant us a firm faith in your loving purpose, and the comfort of your presence, now and always. **Amen**

Go now, Reg, on your journey from this world; surrounded by the love of your family and friends and in the love and mercy of God the Life-Giver, who created you, redeemed by Jesus Christ, who suffered death for you, in the company of the Spirit of life and love.

God alone is holy and just and good. In that confidence we have commended you, Reg, to God's judgement and mercy, God's forgiveness and love. So now we commit your body to be buried, earth to earth, dust to dust.

Into the freedom of wind and sunshine we let you go,
Into the dance of the stars and the planets we let you go,
Into the wind's breath and the hands of the Starmaker, we let you go,
We love you, we will miss you.
May you rest from all your labours.

Support us, loving God, all the hours of life's day, until the shadows lengthen, and the evening comes, the busy world is hushed, the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then, in your mercy, give us safe lodging, a holy rest, and peace at the last. **Amen**



REGINALD JOHN LANG 20 January 1924 to 1 September 2021 A CELEBRATION OF HIS LIFE AND A REMEMBERING



**ST JAMES ANGLICAN CHURCH TRARALGON
9 September 2021
Reverend Marilyn Obersby**

