Celebrating the Life of

Valerie May Griffiths nee Gough

23rd December, 1934 - 3rd July, 2023

Friday 14th July, 2023 at 11.00am
St.John's Anglican Church, Mansfield

Order of Service

Arrival Music: "Fur Elise" by Richard Clayderman
"Amazing Grace" by Andre Rieu
"All Things Bright and Beautiful" by Christina Perri
"Besame Mucho" by Andrea Bocelli

Welcome : The Reverend Melissa Clark

The Grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all. And also with you.

We have come together to mourn the loss of Val, to celebrate her life, and comfort each other in our grief.

The Candle: light immortal, you bought life and immortality to light through the Gospel. May we, with Val and all of your people, know the full light of your risen presence. Amen.

Water: In the waters of baptism we died with Christ, and began to walk in newness of life. May we, with Val and all your people, be bought to the fulfilment of your eternal kingdom. Amen.

The Scriptures: In life Val was nourished by the word of God. May Christ greet us, with Val, saying: Come, blessed of the Creator! Amen.

The Cross: Lord Jesus, in love for us you faced the cross. May this cross be a sign to us of your love for Val, and her entrance into your loving embrace for eternity. Amen.

Opening Prayer (We pray together)

Loving God, you alone are the source of life.
May your life giving Spirit flow through us,
and fill us with compassion, one for another.
In our sorrow give us the calm of your peace.
Kindle our hope, and let our grief give way to joy;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hymn: "All Things Bright And Beautiful" (Please stand)

All things bright and beautiful,
all creatures great and small,
all things wise and wonderful —
the Lord God made them all.

The wildflowers in their beauty,
the mountain ranges tall,
the billabongs and rivers,
and friendly birds that call,

All things bright and beautiful ...
The cold wind in the winter,
the bright, life-giving sun,
the ripe fruits in the garden —
he made them every one.

All things bright and beautiful ...
He gave us eyes to see them,
and lips that we might tell
how great is God Almighty
who has made all things well.
All things bright and beautiful ...

Eulogy and Poem : Val's daughters

Photo Tribute: "Unchained Melody" Instrumental
"Memories" by Richard Clayderman

Hymn: "Praise my soul the King of Heaven" (Please stand)

Praise, my soul, the king of heaven;
to his feet your tribute bring;
ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
who like me his praise should sing?

Praise him, praise him, hallelujah,
praise the everlasting king!

Frail as summer's flower we flourish,
blows the wind and it is gone;
but while mortals rise and perish
God endures unchanging on.

Praise him, praise him, hallelujah,
praise the high eternal one!

Angels, help us to adore him,
you behold him face to face;
sun and moon, bow down before him,
dwellers all in time and space:
praise him, praise him, hallelujah,
praise with us the God of grace!

Bible Reading: Psalm 23
read by Michael O'Halloran

The Lord is my Shepherd:
therefore can I lack nothing.
He will make me lie down in green pastures:
and lead me beside still waters.
He will refresh my soul:
and guide me in right pathways for his name's sake.
Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil:
for you are with me, your rod and your staff comfort me.
You spread a table before me in the face of those who trouble me:
you have anointed my head with oil,and my cup shall be full. Surely your goodness and loving-kindness
will follow me all the days of my life:
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Reflection: The Rev. Melissa Clark

Let us pray.

Thanks be to God for the gift of life.You have made us in your image, and called us to reflect your truth and light.

We thank you for the life of Val.

We give thanks for the life she shared with Bill for so many years. We give thanks for Val's much loved family: for Lynne and Michael, Jane and Michael, Wendy and Kevin, and Heather and Richard.

For Damian, Nathan, and Heath, Belinda and Melissa, Badyn and Kate; and for Tahlia, Addison, Spencer, Bentley, Alexander, Annabelle, Grace, Bryce, Danyan, Hollie, Rylee, Emily, Max, and Zoe and we pray for each of them in their time of grief.

We pray and give thanks for the many people who have assisted Val in these later years as her health needs changed; especially for the Mansfield Shire and Hospital care teams, and the staff and care teams at Buckland House whose dedication allowed for her to pass peacefully into eternal life.

We give thanks for her love of nature, animals, and gardening; for her love of music and travel that encouraged her adventurous spirit. We give thanks for her dedication to her family, and her generosity in the community. We thank you that now she is at peace and reunited with loved ones who have gone before her.
God of all mercy, giver of all comfort: look graciously, we pray, on those who mourn for Val.

Casting all their cares on you, may they know the consolation of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen

Hymn: "Immortal Invisible" (Please stand)

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessèd, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, your great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, but ruling in might;
your justice like mountains high soaring above,
your clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

You give life to all, Lord, to both great and small,
in all life now living, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish as leaves on a tree,
then wither: but ever unchanged you will be.

Farewell and Blessing

Let us entrust our sister Val to the mercy of God. Holy and loving God, by your mighty power you gave us life, and in your love you have given us new life in Christ Jesus.

We entrust Val to your merciful keeping: in the faith of Jesus Christ,who died and rose again to save us, and now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit in glory for ever. Amen.

Recessional Music: "A Little Further North"by Graeme Connor

Coffin Bearers : Michael Kee , Michael O'Halloran
Badyn Alderson, Murray Gough,
Euan Friday, Grant Pollard

Thankyou to The Reverend Melissa Clark, Anglican Parish of Mansfield and Jan White for playing the organ.

Private Cremation

Garden Poem

by Dorothy Frances Gurney

The kiss of the sun for pardon,
the song of the birds for mirth,
You are nearer to God's heart in a garden,
than anywhere else on earth.

Bill and family thankyou for your presence
and sharing this day with us.

Following the service you are warmly invited
to join the family for refreshments at
The Mansfield Golf Club,
24 Kidston Parade, Mansfield.

A.F.D.A
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