

Obituary

Halvene Therese Fleming (nee Kessey)

1934 - 2005

The late Halvene Therese Fleming, (nee Kessey), passed away on 6th October 2005 at Bathurst Base Hospital, aged 71 years.

Born on 6th February 1934 at Bourke, Halvene was the daughter of former Bourke citizens, the late Halvar and Ena Kessey. On her mother's side, she was the third generation to be born in Bourke where she lived for her first 46 years.

Halvene was educated to the Intermediate Certificate level by the Sisters of Mercy at St Ignatius Convent School. After leaving school, she joined the office staff of Hales & Co where she worked until her marriage to Bruce Fleming on 1st March 1955.

Halvene was a keen participant in the life of the town, gaining particular enjoyment through sport such as basketball and through her attendance at local dances and balls. Early in her married life she was an enthusiastic participant at the commencement of the Bourke Ladies Bowling Club. Later Halvene loved her games of golf with the Bourke lady golfers.

Halvene and Bruce raised a family of four in Bourke. Halvene supported her family and the community through her involvement in school activities such as the P&C Association, St Ignatius School librarianship, fetes, working bees and the tuckshop. In addition she enjoyed many hours assisting at Pony Club functions and keenly encouraged her daughters in their equestrian pursuits.

Halvene shared in Bruce's participation in town local service clubs such as Apex, Rotary and the Bourke Golf Club.

Since 1980 Halvene has lived in Figtree and Bathurst, where she continued to indulge her passion for gardening. From Figtree, Halvene and Bruce attended Open Garden Festivals from the Southern Highlands to the Illawarra and Blue Mountains.



Halvene derived great pleasure from ongoing contact with numerous old Bourke friends and close ties with her large extended family. In recent years she relished the role of Nan to her three grandchildren, Amber, Ruby and Jed.

Halvene and Bruce celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary in March this year at Bathurst, with a lovely dinner and party for their many friends and family members. It was a memorable and joyous occasion for all.

A large group of family and friends celebrated Halvene's life at a requiem mass held at the Cathedral of St Michael and St John, Bathurst on 10th October 2005. She is buried at Bathurst cemetery.

Halvene is survived by her husband Bruce, children Jim, Shae, Peta and Patrick, daughter-in-law Lisa, her beloved grandchildren Amber, Ruby and Jed, much loved brother Jim Kessey and sisters Carmel Hull and Penny Kessey.

— Contributed