

Lorraine (Friedlander) Basserabie – My Life after School

[Ed – for some reason, which remains unexplained Lorraine is NOT on the Group Class of '62 photo]

Well as we move toward becoming 70 year-olds, memories become dimmer but here goes...

A memory of Larry Cullen-our swimming coach and Latin master:

I thought I could swim and went for a training session... Absolutely exhausting.... I had to cry before he let me out of the pool...!

The 3 teachers I remember, with fondness, are:

Miss Fiddler, Peter Lynsky and Estelle Kagan, who made Maths so easy....!

And of course Mr Harrison- a headmaster like no other- who knew us all by name....

I became a Pharmacist ... A good choice in those days, when pay was good and jobs plentiful and it was, in a way, creative. We actually manufactured our medications - quite stimulating and fun and 'locums' took me into areas I would never have entered otherwise. My Afrikaans became fluent... I met with a real cross section of the community and was quite (financially) independent in the early days of my marriage to Mervyn – when we contributed almost equally to our joint income....

Thank goodness though - he far surpassed me after his MBA from Cape Town University's Business School and his entry into Property Development...



Lorraine with Husband Mervyn



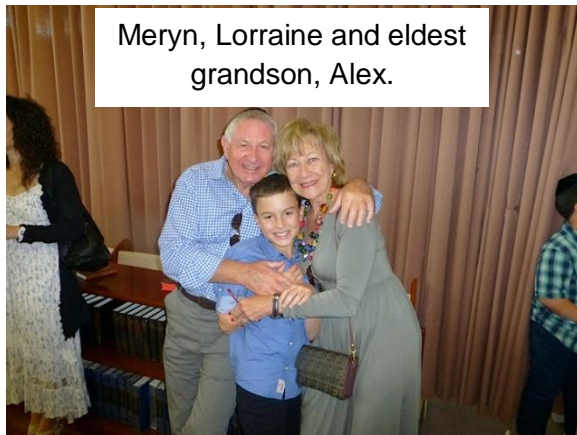
Gavin, Donna and Trevor

We had 3 children -Gavin, Trevor and Donna- and life was blissful and around 1978 we swapped our Kew home for a beautiful older English cottage-like Houghton home which we renovated extensively and remained there till we emigrated to Sydney in '92

Meanwhile, whilst still in SA, I started a Landscaping business which grew from strength to strength and when I finally became my own person- not Mervyn

Basserabie's wife or Gavin, Trevor or Donna's mum, it was time to leave SA and, believe it or not, I resumed my landscaping here, in Sydney where we have a sub- tropical climate. Just wonderful doing what I loved - exploiting my latent creativity!

However... I discovered that my frequent bronchial attacks (aggravated by intimate contact with the soil, fertilizers etc, and my deteriorating RP-Retinitis Pigmentosa - (which I discovered when I was 32) and this was soon to force me into another direction. - which I love very much - namely '*Granny*ing'!



Meryn, Lorraine and eldest grandson, Alex.

I have 5 grandchildren between 11 and 1 and they are my absolute joy ... Creative and inspirational.

I learn something new from them every time I see them – and they now walk me... What a turnabout !!

Sydney was a fine choice for us... took us no time to acclimatize -

Seasons are the same

Drive on LHS

Weather very similar

So many So Africans here I sometimes wonder where I am...

The ozzies are commenting that their children are beginning to 'speak So African'

'cause their teachers are So African

Ozzie families talk about their kids 'marrying in or out' because so many of their children are marrying So Africans!

- and so many Australians are making SA their holiday destination - a beautiful stepping stone and jet-lag stop-over on their way to Europe, UK or Israel....

We, ourselves, love going via SA to wherever and see all our family and friends on the way....

Gavin, my eldest, is part of Daddysdeals.co.za which specializes in fantastic getaways at hugely discounted prices in SA - wine areas, game farms etc etc (subscribe to the website - costs nothing)

We used a special offer for the Lanzerac in Stellenbosch and Ivory Trees in the Pilansberg, where we took our Ozzie grandchildren - a game farm - just great fun.

Warm regards to you all,
Lorraine (Friedlander) Basserabie

Btw... If anyone is coming to Sydney and would like to contact us , please do so on my cell:
+61 410 694855



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