

Honouring the Past – Securing the Future

The Law Family have made a contribution to The Mackay Foundation to build a secure future for the community in honour of

KENNETH LAW

Born at Tara, on the western Darling Downs, on April 9, 1923, **Kenneth Law** was the ninth of ten children of Arthur and Williamena Law. The family moved to a cane farm at Mt Pelion in 1925 and Ken began school there in 1928. He attended Hampden State School for his final two years of schooling. Ken then worked as a farmhand at Kuttabul and at Benholme, near Mirani. Poor health forced him to leave farming and he took a job as an order and delivery boy for the Pinnacle grocer.



At the outbreak of World War II in 1939, Ken's older brother Lionel scored him a job with Fields Ltd as a trainee radio mechanic and battery attendant. Although called up for service, he failed the medical and returned to work as a farmhand in 1943. It was at this time he met the love of his life, Lorna. The couple were married on January 24, 1945, at St Paul's Presbyterian Church.

After the birth of daughter Tricia in July 1946, Ken returned to work at Fields Ltd as their country rep, based in Calen. After a move to Innisfail in 1947 and the birth of second daughter Gail in November 1948, Ken and his family returned to the Mackay region and a job at Fields Electrical, based in Calen in 1950. He transferred to Mackay in 1952. Daughter Robyn was born in February 1953 and only son Jim in October 1954. Ken and Lorna's youngest child Barbara was born in January 1962.

Ken had a lifetime love of music and he played the drums for many local dances, often with Mavis Brand. He also loved to sing and it was his passion for music which led him to purchase and operate a music shop in Mackay between 1958 and 1964. This was the beginnings of Ken's long association and enduring friendship with Col Joye as the store took bookings for The Col Joye Show.

In his later years, Ken rarely missed a community singing and Senior Citizen's music sessions and loved going to Morning Melodies at the Mackay Entertainment and Convention Centre. He was a long-time and well-known volunteer and Friend of the Theatre. Ken also devoted many years of service to Mackay horse racing. He started an amplifier service for the Mackay Turf Club in 1948 that allowed the broadcast of southern races to punters at Ooralea. He also began the racing photo service in 1968 that supplied winning owners, jockey and trainers with photos of their horses at the finish line. His son Jim took over the race photo business when he retired.

Ken was very committed to community service. He served on the committee and as president of the Mackay Pony Club, was a member of Rotary and Jaycees and served on the board of the Blue Nursing Service for many years. In 1975 he was inducted into Calen Masonic Lodge and later into Walkerston Lodge 482. In 1993 Ken and Lorna moved into Park Haven Retirement Village. Ken was extremely proud of his 66 years of devoted marriage to Lorna, his five children, 13 grandchildren and 22 great-grandchildren. Ken passed away in June 2013, but his two great loves in life are his lasting legacy – his family and his enduring service and devotion to the betterment of his community.