

## **Tony Badrick's eulogy given at the funeral of Jill Tate**

It is a privilege but with heart felt sorrow that I am here performing this duty in front of the people who Jill touched.

### **History**

I have known Jill since 1973 and we worked together for 16 years but continued as friends and colleagues for another 29 years. Lyn joined us in 1974 we were married in 1984. We became close friends

### **Jill the Scientist**

Jill produced more than 60 papers with 45 collaborators many of whom became close friends. The breadth of her scientific publications was considerable and covered transketolase, reference intervals, apolipoproteins, standardisation, poCT, troponin, light chains, and protein electrophoresis.

Jill was also a member of Clinical Biochemist Reviews and Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine Editorial Boards.

She became a Founding Fellow of the Faculty of Science in the Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia.

### **Australasian Association of Clinical Biochemists**

Jill joined the AACB 1978. She was an active member of QLD Branch QC subcommittee, Scientific & Regulatory Affairs Committee member from 2002, and sat on the Education committee. She had two sessions as AACB Vice President SRAC 2005/06 and 2012/13.

Jill's contributions to AACB were recognised with her award of the Nancy Dale Scholarship, the Outstanding Service Medallion, and last year as Roman Lecturer.

### **International Federation Clinical Chemistry**

Jill was the AACB IFCC rep 2006/07 and again 2012/13. She was chair of IFCC WG on Standardisation of Lp(a), and committee member for markers of cardiac damage, and Troponin I.

Jill was quoted as saying “I’m not interested in the politics, only the science”.  
But she always ‘worked the room’

On the topic of Harmonisation, Jill made a fundamental contribution to establishing and progressing the national harmonisation initiatives while AACB Vice President of Scientific affairs. This has been a huge international effort, and the greatest effort of all, was from Jill. We expect her commitment and spirit will remain with us all. – Ken Sikaris

She made a difference.

## Daughter

Jill lived with and supported her mother until she died 3 years ago aged 95. They shared a love of sherry and every Friday night made a trip to the city for ritual visits to the Shingle Inn.

She developed a strong Community of Neighbours with her gregarious mother and was a devoted daughter.

## Jill

Hard working, highly organised, busy, she was reliable, generous and thoughtful, gentle yet firm, with a subtle sense of humour, modest.

Always a question, always her view, always a golly, gosh, oh boy, what do you think, let’s not go there!

A role model and mentor – she was very interested in young scientists and recognised them whenever she met them.

She had a great relationship with local community – Paul the butcher, Wan the chemist, dentist staff, her coffee shop and hairdresser, Edwardo who became very supportive in the last 12 months.

Her hobbies included, Ballroom dancing, German and Tennis. Scarves given to friends.

She loved to shop, most of all at the sales – always thinking of a present for a friend. The handbags and collection of shopping bags containing lots of assorted items.

Frightened of ants and anything bigger though dogs were OK, as long as there was a fence between her and it. She was a Bowerbird.

She had a great respect and love for her father, from whom she got her love of learning – a gentleman.

She was Jill.

Jill faced death with dignity and control. She was working on her science with her colleagues up until the last week of her life

The community of biochemists were her family and her scientific contributions her legacy.

‘She has very fond memories reminiscing about studies and antics during her time as part of the scientific community, both social and professional. These memories are held dear to her.’

A life given to others. We will all miss her terribly

We need to acknowledge all of those close friends who are grieving for Jill. Special mention for Wendy, who has been close friend to Jill and her mother Norma for 40 years. It was Wendy who was often the driver and companion for shopping and outings, it was Wendy who was one of Jill’s best friends. It was Wendy who Jill turned to when the diagnosis was made and the final year began. Wendy was there to provide compassion, strength and practical help for Jill through the worst time of her life.

Wendy and her team gave Jill enormous support this year which allowed Jill to maintain control over her illness and death. Because of Wendy Jill was never left to face this terrible year alone or frightened. On behalf of all us thank you