

Dave Cutler: Biography.

Died 5 November 2016 aged 68 years



Dave died on Saturday 5 November 2016. He was diagnosed with cancer for some years and suffered a significant stroke in March 2016. He deteriorated rapidly in the last month of his life. His death notice is shown below:

**CUTLER, David John.**

Late of Marrickville.

Passed away peacefully

5th November 2016

Aged 68 years

Dearly beloved husband of Anna MacIntyre. David will be fondly remembered by the extended MacIntyre and Peterson families and friends around the world.

David's family and friends are invited to attend a celebration of his life to be held in the Palm Chapel, Macquarie Park Crematorium, cnr Delhi and Plassey Rds, North Ryde, on Monday November 14, 2016 at 11:15am.

**GREGORY & CARR**

Traditional

Funeral Directors

**Gordon 9498 4455**

Dave was an excellent hockey player. In the mid-1960s, after first coming to Sydney from the North Coast to study Pharmacy at the University of Sydney, he played for the University of Sydney Hockey Club. He was awarded a University of Sydney Blue for hockey in 1969. Dave joined the Glebe District Hockey Club (GDHC) in 1970, aged 22 years, and played in the Glebe first grade team of 1970.

In 1970 he was selected in the NSW Men's Senior Team, together with other Glebe players Pat Nilan, Graeme Gilmour and Robert "Charlie" Brown. He played in the Australian Hockey Championships for NSW in 1970 and from the Tournament was selected in the Australian Team train-on squad. Aged in his

early twenties, Dave showed exceptional promise as a hockey player and if he wanted it, a very promising career was in front of him.

He was captivated by his university studies and soon devoted most of his time and energy to his academic pursuits. After completing a Pharmacy Degree at the University of Sydney, with a University Medical in Pharmaceutical Chemistry, Dave completed a Master of Science Degree in the Pharmacy Department under Doug Moore. After obtaining his Master of Science Degree, Dave then went to England to pursue a Doctorate in the Department of Pharmacy of the University of London.

When based in London in the 1970's Dave played hockey for the Teddington Hockey Club in south-west London. Teddington is the oldest hockey club in the world and was established as an off-shoot of the Teddington Cricket Club in 1871. The Teddington Hockey Club played its first ever game at Bushy Park in the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames.

Dave's professional career activities both in Sydney and in London meant that his hockey pursuits were fitted in around his research and teaching commitments. He played hockey when and where he could.

In the early 1980's Dave came back to Sydney from London and was appointed a Senior Lecturer in Pharmacy at the University of Sydney, a position he held for close to 30 years. He was a world expert in the way medicines were absorbed, distributed in the body, metabolised, and excreted in the urine. A discipline called drug pharmacokinetics. At the University of Sydney Dave taught other GDHC players Allen Chu and Victor Ferrari. Victor went on to complete a PhD in Pharmacy at Sydney University with Dave as his supervisor.

Other GDHC Members to pass through the Pharmacy Department of the University of Sydney were Marvin Heaston, John Nelmes and Harry Wark.

Conversations about Pharmacy and Pharmacy related matters were common on the sideline in the early 1980's between Dave, Allen Chu (157 Club Games), Victor Ferrari (357 Club Games) and Harry Wark (643 Club Games). I remember these discussions with much affection.

If he had pursued his hockey career, Dave may well have become an established Australian player. He had no doubts about his decision to prioritise his academic career over his hockey career and from what I could gather talking to him back in the 1980's. He had no regrets about the choice(s) he made. It was a decision with which he was very comfortable.

In the early 1980's Dave, now aged in his mid-30s, played in the Glebe third grade team. He played his last game for the Club in 1986, by which time he had played a total of 91 games.

In writing this obituary I had a look at a few old GDHC Annual Reports. The third grade Report in the 1985 Annual Report team captain Barry Howe had this to say about Dave: "One of the mainstays of the team during the season. His contribution to the team was valued highly. Scored 2 goals and played 16 games." The GDHC third grade team of 1985 in which Dave played were undefeated Premiers. Dave was

one of the major reasons for this success. He was universally liked and respected at the GDHC. He was modest, down-to-earth and enjoyed sharing a beer with his team-mates after the game.

A fullback, Dave read the game well, tackled well, distributed the ball well, and had a good turn of pace, a quite charm, and a gentlemanly demeanour. Having a gentlemanly demeanour in some of the Glebe teams in which he played was no mean feat, as some of them had a wild, woolly and unruly touch to them.

He was a team man, who by his example had a positive effect and influence on a team and its behaviour. He encouraged others and was not an individualist. Hero runs were not Dave's style. He had a cheerful, optimist disposition and was always a great contributor to the teams in which he played.

Dave, a shortish, slight chap with a full, ginger, bushy beard was not brilliant in any of the skills and attributes of the game, but he was the complete package. He had no weaknesses and did all hockey - related activities with style, skill, polish and finesse. He hit the hockey ball harder than players twice his size, Dave had an excellent hard, accurate, reliable hit. He could hit the ball 50 metres and on most occasions the ball would find its targeted teammate.

Dave was a wizard at analyzing all the ball distribution options available to him and almost invariably chose the appropriate one. If the shorter more controlled push was the best option on offer, he recognized this and fired away an early, firm, well directed pass. He communicated well on the hockey field and was a master at marshalling his defensive teammates. His communication with his goal-keeper was as good as I have ever seen.

He was a highly valued member of the GDHC during his time at the Club. His contribution to Club affairs, and to the teams in which he played was always much appreciated. Dave played hockey for exercise, socialization and stress relief purposes. He always played to the best of his ability and was not too fussed if the team won or lost, as long as the team played to its optimum and good fun was had by all. I consider it a great honour to have had Dave as a team mate, club mate and friend.

In later times on this mortal coil he suffered greatly, but now he is in the place of Eternal Rest and Peace. Praise be to God. Hopefully he is now firmly ensconced in Heaven with God and all the angels, and all the GDHC alumni who have departed this mortal coil. No more suffering, no more pain just happiness, contentment and the satisfaction of knowing he did his best, from beginning to end.

May Dave's soul rest in peace, and we trust that God gives strength and hope to his family and kin here on earth.

Dave was married to Anna MacInyre, a fellow Pharmacy Graduate of the University of Sydney, who was in Allen Chu's year in Pharmacy, and they lived at Marrickville, in Sydney.

Harry Wark  
Historian

Life-Member  
Glebe District Hockey Club

Addendum: David Cutler's Glebe District Hockey Club Biography was published in the [dailyexaminer.com.au](http://dailyexaminer.com.au) on Tuesday, November 29, 2016. The Daily Examiner is a local Newspaper that is distributed in the Grafton area, on the NSW North Coast. Grafton is 620 kilometres north of Sydney. The Biography, published together with additional information provided by Mr Frank Mack, is shown below. Mr Mack was the teacher responsible for introducing hockey into Grafton High School in 1960, the year David started at the School.

"The passing of renowned Grafton-born scientist and avid hockey player David Cutler has touched many in the hockey community, both here and at the Glebe District Hockey Club, where he played most of his senior years.

David was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Norman Cutler and brother of Richard (dec). He was born in Grafton in 1948, attended Grafton Public and Grafton High school before entering Sydney University in 1968 to gain a degree in Pharmacy.

At the beginning of 1960 when Junior Hockey was introduced again as a sport in the Clarence Valley, David became very much involved with the game and was integral to the operations of the Grafton hockey community."