



# Class of '61 – Reunion

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The Reunion is over but the memories linger on . . . .

It is with great sadness that I advise of the death of **EDWARD GEORGE FORSYTH (TED)** on Monday the 13<sup>th</sup> of February 2012. I spoke to John Friend, the owner of Imperial Development (Pty) Ltd a mining supplies company, and Ted's employer for the past 14 years. A close friend of Teds, John told me that Ted had developed a "hole in the heart". The problem was diagnosed in Welkom on Saturday the 11th and Ted was taken on the Monday to Bloemfontein for surgery. Unfortunately, before he could be operated upon, he died of heart failure.



Ted was a great guy, well loved and respected by all. You will recall that he was unable to attend our Reunion in 2011 because he had had a very bad fall a couple of weeks before. One wonders if the fall was not related to his heart problem. I recall the message that he sent us which I read at the Reunion dinner:

'Hi to all you Class of 61 guys. I really regret not being able to attend the reunion. I wish you all a good time on this wonderful occasion. I can assure you, I will be having a couple of Vodka & Tabs. All the very best for the future and very best wishes to you all. **Ted Forsyth'**

**Rest in peace, old friend – you will be missed.**

**Clive Jones** had a scare last year when he had a heart attack while playing tennis. Fortunately his heart specialist quickly diagnosed the problem, fitted two stents to widen the offending artery – and Clive is back on the tennis court. You can't keep a good man down for long!!!!



On a lighter note I am delighted to publish the following report from Clive Jones:

"On Wednesday the 1st May 2013, **Mike Colborne (Corbo)** reached his 70th birthday. As many will know, he has been a long and ultra-distance runner for years.

On his birthday he ran another, the Safari Half Marathon, in Wellington, Western Cape. The picture on the right shows the medal that he was awarded for that day's run.



Mike and his wife Patty are both runners and the picture on the right shows them together with their accumulated medals.



On Sunday 5th May 2013, his birthday was celebrated with a spit braai lamb at their home. Mike asked me to investigate his family tree and present that to the guests. I warned him that that kind of enquiry can result in finding skeletons that you wish were not in your background (like one I have in mine a few generations back) and also the discovery that a bit of fame that you thought your family had was not true - or at least not in your part of the family. Mike had one of those in his background.

Mike's older brother Desmond was there with his wife, Marianne (They live in Paris, France. I had never met them before.) Also at the celebration was a lady, Sandy Campbell, on the left) who lives in St Francis Bay. Mike and Desmond had never met her, but Mike had had contact with her and gave her contact details to me. Her grandfather and the grandfather of Mike and Desmond were brothers.



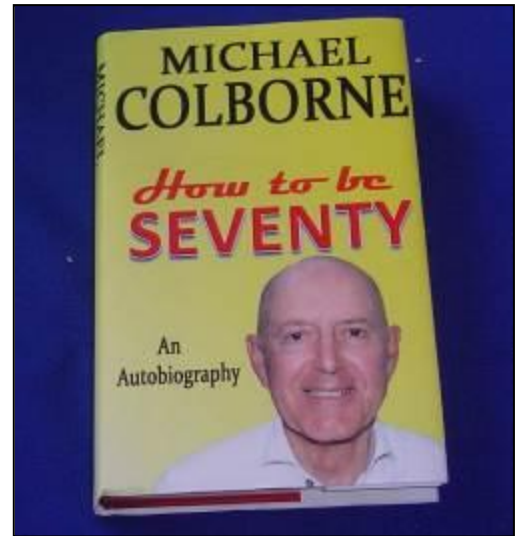
Mike and Desmond also have a sister Merle who lives overseas. She was not at the celebration. I knew her as a teenager.

Also at the celebration were two gents from the class of 62 - Howie Blumenthal and Ray Bungay.





The first thing one saw on arrival at the house was a directional poster for vegetarians. The side entrance referred to led to an open field of grass next door to their property.



Mike's unveiling of his book "How to be SEVENTY" caused much hilarity: the fact that the contents were dedicated to the control of flatulence, how to look after false teeth, and dropped arches – how to pick them up. He recalled "I can remember when the air was clean and sex was dirty" and "Age is strictly a case of

mind over matter. If you don't mind, it doesn't matter" and finally "I've only got one wrinkle and I'm sitting on it."

Anyway, it appears a good time was had by all and we wish Corbo a very happy birthday – may he enjoy many more."

No doubt we **did** work together to make it a truly memorable 50th Reunion – after all, it was the only 50th we will ever have! **Only three and a quarter years before the 55<sup>th</sup> Reunion – prepare!!!**

Kind regards

**Werner Illgner** (on behalf of the 2011 organising committee)

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