

Initial Upload 6 November 2011

Marie Eichler

Marie was the youngest of Bill and Lucy's children. She was born at Broken Hill on 3 December 1927.

Marie like her Harford cousins attended St Mary's School Railway Town. She was a good scholar and in 1937 was 4th in Class 4. Her cousin Clare Pell was in the same class. In 1939 she was equal 1st in Class 6b and in 1940 she was 3rd in Class 6a.¹

From a young age she showed ability in athletics. Her family was always at picnics at which there were running events for men, women and children. In 1934 she won the under 6 girls race at the Labour Day picnic at Silverton. In 1935 and 1936 she was a regular place getter in four age 6 to 9 races winning at the Silverton Tramway Employees picnic in April 1936.² She was 2nd in the same race the next year but won the Central Mine picnic race for girls 8 to 10. In 1938 she won the Central Mine race again and in 1939 she won the Labour Day picnic race as well as the girls under 12 race at the Central Mine picnic.

Marie was also taught to dance and she is reported as performing dances at events such as the Catholic Wolf Cub Pack birthday party in 1936 and the 2BH radio station Smiler's Club Christmas Party in 1937.³ She also competed in dance events doing the Irish Jig at the Silver City Show in 1936 and the Barrier Caledonian Society annual picnic obtaining 3rd place on both occasions.⁴

Marie has fond memories of her grandmother Bridget. She also recalls her grandfather Jim (James Samuel) who died in 1934. He was a nice man but as a young child she was frightened of his bushy grey beard. She recalls overnight stays with her grandmother at 171 Newton St after Jim died.

In 1940 the family moved to Semaphore in Adelaide and Marie went to school at the Cabra Dominican College. While at school she played Netball and was a member of the South Australian under 15 State Netball Team.

At the completion of her schooling, Marie trained as a nurse at the Royal Adelaide Hospital. When she graduated she worked as a nurse in hospitals in country South Australia.

¹ Barrier Miner 15 December 1937; 19 December 1939 and 11 May 1940.

² Barrier Miner 14 April 1936

³ Barrier Miner 13 May 1936 & 4 December 1937

⁴ Barrier Miner 22 August 1936 & 30 January 1937



Sister Marie Eichler



Marie Debut

In 1947 Marie was visiting Geelong to see an old nursing friend. At a picnic at Anglesea she met David Joseph (Max) Martini. Not long after their engagement was announced:

EICHLER—MARTINI — The engagement is announced of Marie, only daughter of Mrs. L. Eichler and the late Mr. W. Eichler, of Semaphore, to David youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. T. Martini of Geelong, Victoria.

The Advertiser 18 November 1947

Max was born at Geelong on 16 July 1928. He was the only son of Joseph Timothy (Tim) Martini, born 1 August 1898, died 2 July 1979 at Geelong and Ada Pontin, born 4 April 1890, died 18 December 1978 also at Geelong.

Max and Marie were married on 23 September 1948 at St Francis' Cathedral, Adelaide. Shortly afterwards they moved to Geelong.

Max had joined the RAAF in 1947 where he trained in electrical work. He was to work at various locations including Laverton, Point Cook and Wagga. He left the RAAF in 1968 after 20 years. He joined the Defence Department and worked at Victoria Barracks with the Australian Security Intelligence Service on "Technical electronic equipment" no doubt used as spying mechanisms.

In the RAAF Max met Marie's brother David and they became very good friends. He was his best man at David's wedding to Dorothy in 1951 at Ballarat



Max and Marie



Marie Matron of Honour

Max and Marie had four children:

1. **Deidre Nean** Born 16 May 1949 at Geelong, Vic. Married Paul Leonard Lindsay (Born 14 February 1948) 19 Feb 1972 at Holy Spirit Church, Manifold Heights, Geelong Vic .

Children:

Benjamin James born 28 October 1976 at Adelaide SA. Married Kristen Elizabeth Strong (Born 20 October 1979 at Scranton, Lackawanna, PA, USA) on 8 May 2004 at Snows Church, Clarks Summit, PA, USA. Children:

Grace Elizabeth Born 8 April 2008, at San Francisco, CA

Owen James Born 20 June 2011 at Brentonville, Benton, AS, USA

Timothy Luke Born 20 April 1979 at Adelaide, SA. Married Kim Michelle Beineke (Born 2 October 1982 at Adelaide SA.) on 23 April 2004 at Adelaide, SA. Children:

Alice Pearl Born 9 January 2006 at Adelaide SA.

Annabelle Rose Born 20 October 2008 at Adelaide SA.

2. **Craig David** Born 18 May 1950 at Geelong Vic. Married Christine Ann Brown (Born 11 September 1953) on 20 January 1973 at St Francis Xavier's Chapel Curlewis. Children:
David James Born 13 November 1976 at Melbourne, Vic. Married Stephanie Rose Dickens (Born 18 November 1976 at Providence Rhode Island USA). Children:

Xavier David Born 5 July 2011

Elsbeth Ann Born 14 November 1978 at Melbourne Vic.

Sarah Marie Born 28 September 1980 at Melbourne Vic.

Daniel John Born 11 March 1982

Craig and Christine were divorced in 2000.

Craig married Lydia Di Stefano (Born 11 Aug 1970) on 22 May 2010 at Florence, Italy

3. **Marie Colette** Born 4 November 1953 at Geelong, Vic. Married Brendan Gellion (Born 13 March 1954 at Melbourne vic.) on 22 March 1975 at Holy Spirit Church, Manifold Heights, Geelong Vic. Children:

Georgina Louise Born 17 March 1977 at Geelong, Vic. Married Ross Graham Tegechuter (Born 5 November 1971) at Minyip, Vic. Children:

Zoe Clare Born 23 January 2009 at Horsham, Vic.

Nicholas John Born 24 April 1980 at Geelong, Vic. Married Linda Roelofs (Born 29 April 1979 at Ulftherhoek, Sevenum, Limburg, Netherlands) on 9 April 2010 at St Peter & Paul's Catholic Church, Geelong, Vic. Children:

Blake William Born 17 March 2011 at Geelong. Vic.

Stephanie Kate Born 22 April 1980 at Geelong, Vic. Married Daniel John Inturris (Born 7 July 1981) on 21 March 2009 at Sacred Heart Chapel, Geelong, Vic. Children”

Gabriel Santo Born 8 February 2011 at Geelong Vic..

4. **Lisa** Born 26 January 1966 at Geelong. Lisa lived only a few hours. She is buried at Western Public Cemetery, Geelong.

Max and Marie separated in about 1986. David now lives with his partner Janina who was the cause of the separation.

Marie is now well and truly retired living at Newcomb, Geelong.



Marie 2011