



Royal Australasian
College of Surgeons

Nigel Fox

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Vascular and General surgeon

1942-2006

Nigel Fox died at the end of 2006 in a motor vehicle accident while returning from Toowoomba to Mildura. This tragic accident has left a gaping hole in the hearts of many who knew him and the patients he treated.

Nigel graduated from the University of Queensland in 1969. He was initially Resident Medical Officer in Mount Isa, Queensland then after a short stint in General Practice he went to the United States where he was Resident Surgical Officer in the Greater Baltimore Medical Centre and then the John Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore. After another stint in General Practice in Canada in 1973 he moved to the United Kingdom to the Queen Mary's Hospital in Roehampton, London and then to the Epsom District Hospital, Surrey. He became Senior Surgical Registrar at the King Edward the Seventh Hospital in Windsor before accepting a similar position at the Charing Cross Hospital, London.

Returning to Australia in 1978 Nigel was Vascular Fellow at the Austin Hospital, Melbourne, and from 1979 to 2005 was Visiting Medical Officer at Mildura Base Hospital, Victoria. In that year he moved to Toowoomba, Queensland, to practice as a Vascular Surgeon at St. Andrew's Hospital.

Nigel obtained an Edinburgh fellowship in 1974 with a certificate of higher

surgical training in 1980. He was admitted to Fellowship of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons in 1990.

Nigel was a foundation member of the Association of International Vascular Surgeons (AIVS), becoming the Australian national representative of this organization and attending their meetings annually. He became the president of the AIVS in 2005. He was a member of the International Society for Cardiovascular Surgery and was also a force in the Provincial Surgeons of Australia (PSA) and in 1993 hosted the Annual Scientific meeting of the PSA in Mildura, becoming the President the following year.

Nigel was an extraordinary individual who was passionate about his work. He was amazingly careful with his patients and tried so hard for them. He found this easy as he loved his work. He became an accomplished interventional Vascular surgeon, presenting regularly about his work at scientific meetings and promoting the need for rural patients to have equal access to this technology.

Nigel was also passionate about his family and everything he found enjoyable in life, such as wine, food, golf, skiing, horse riding and travelling. He had an amazing turn of phrase and was able to diffuse any disagreement with his wit. He was always an uplifting person, enthusiastic, happy and generous to a fault with his time for family and friends.

There are so many who will miss Nigel because those who knew him always figured he would be part of their lives stretching into the future. He is survived by his wife Tracey and his six children. With them we will miss this extraordinary man.

Kevin Chambers and Vasa Skorupanovic

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