

Remembering Lyn Bennett



05/09/1954 - 12/09/2018

Lyn Bennett will be sorely missed by the Territory, the world and all who knew her. I recall when Lyn joined Hunt & Hunt. She was a breath of fresh air, a flamboyant, artistic, cultured individual who was kindly eccentric, as well as being a very nice person. Her office was full of paintings, woven baskets and contained a riot of items of creative endeavour. And yes she was also a hard-working, intelligent, careful and exceptional lawyer who stood out in the area of commercial law. She taught us to absolutely reject any alcoholic beverage in the form of Chardonnay ('cardonney' as she put it) and she was a great mentor to young lawyers. Never a dull moment working with Lyn, I would go to work each day to see what she was wearing and what pearl of wisdom would fall from her lips, and she always made us laugh at others and ourselves. Lyn was one of a kind and we are grateful and richer for having known her. All the very best to Graham, Victoria, Alex and Sebastian ■

**Peggy Cheong, Director
Hunt & Hunt**

It was always invigorating, and indeed a great pleasure, to engage with Lyn either professionally or socially.

Lyn's depth of knowledge and acute sense of doing the right thing were equal to her scintillating displays of fashion and her sense of humour.

In many ways Lyn was a contradiction. She was so careful and precise yet so flamboyant and vibrant.

On the last occasion that I spoke with the Lyn we exchanged pleasantries in the car park at Alliance Francaise de Darwin, as she was leaving a French lesson and I was arriving for the next French lesson.

Lyn said that she thought that French would help her keep her mind sharp and active. I said that she had absolutely no need to take French lessons as she had one of the sharpest and active minds that I had ever encountered in the legal profession in Darwin. Lyn smiled graciously and gave me one of her "Richard, don't be silly" looks. →

Be a spot of colour in someone's grey*

It is with great sadness that I write this tribute to Lyn. My sadness is tempered by my fond recollections of Lyn. I remember Lyn as a first-class legal practitioner and human being.

Lyn was a tireless advocate for the legal profession and a joy to behold ■

**Richard Henschke, Director
Halfpennys Lawyers**

Lyn Bennett was a well-known and much loved legal practitioner in the NT for 20 years. With her fabulously dry sense of humour and vibrancy that struck you from the moment you met her, Lyn left an impression on everyone she came into contact with.

The Society and the legal profession in the NT have been beneficiaries of countless hours of Lyn's significant and gracious contributions as a volunteer, colleague and friend. For many years Lyn was not only a valuable member of the Society's Commercial Law Committee but also its leader as Committee Chair. Lyn personally gave untold hours of service to this Committee, most particularly in the drafting of the most recent version of the *Standard Contract of Sale*. Lyn was enormously proud of the Committee's many months of effort which saw that major piece of work through to its successful conclusion.

I recall one Committee meeting with a less than admirable attendance and Lyn's horror at the number of sandwiches that

might go to waste as a result. The next Committee meeting had the highest turnout in the Committee's recent history. I later learned that this was due to an email Lyn had sent to all Committee members which left them in no doubt about her thoughts about the noticeable lack of attendance or advance apologies for an inability to attend at the previous meeting. A masterstroke from an excellent Committee Chair which achieved the desired result!

Lyn didn't just leave her mark locally. She added to national conversations as the NT member on the Law Council of Australia's National Electronic Conveyancing Systems Committee and the Law Council of Australia Legal Practice Section Property Law Committee. The NT interest on the national property law stage was well-served by having Lyn as our voice.

The Society is grateful for Lyn's collegiality and her strong commitment to supporting and working for the benefit of the NT legal profession. She will be deeply missed by so many for so many reasons ■

**Kellie Grainger, CEO
Law Society Northern Territory**

*Grammar, wit and a
wine or two,
That's the way we'll
remember you...*

*Thank you for
bringing colour into
our lives.*

*Lynette Bennett -
12.09.18*

**From the team at
MinterEllison**

