

Bob Adam's Eulogy (by Phillip Fresta)

William Shakespeare's world revolved around live theatre. The same can be said about our Bob, especially after he retired from full time work. Shakespeare wrote, "All the world is a stage and all the men and women merely players." In response Bob would have said, I think the world of the Playhouse stage and the players are my second family.

So, we, Bob's Playhouse family, wish to show our love and respect to Bob and celebrate his outstanding service over many, many years.

If the all the world truly is a stage, then Bob was the lead actor in an amazing play titled 'The life and times of Bob Adams'. We all enjoyed being your supporting cast. Today we are up to your final scene and soon it will be time for you to take your final curtain call.

But first let us go back to the scene where you first joined the Bundaberg Playhouse Theatre. The year is 1983 and back then we were known as the Bundaberg Amateur Players.

Bob's first play was a theatre restaurant called The Jolly Roger. A comedy about sailors and pirates. Bob played a pirate and the first line he ever spoke on our stage was, "Hey, Rodgers and Hammerstein could make a musical out of this".

Ten short years later in 1993 Bob wins the Senior Oscar, best overall performance, for his portrayal of a WW 2 soldier in the drama titled Price of Peace.

Bob put his talents to many parts of the theatre, he was a stage manager and went on to be a Director. He also served on the management committee and was President of our organisation for three terms 1996, 97 and 98.

As the years passed Bob's mobility slowly declined and he retired from on stage performing. He then dedicated himself to front of house activities. Working in the office and in tickets sales. He then became the House Manager for every performance of every production. Part of the House Manager's duties is to greet the audience as they enter the foyer. He would always dress in vest and jacket. Some of his fellow members are vested up themselves today to show their love and respects to Bob. When the audience arrives at the theatre the first person they see is our Kim Dick selling tickets. The second person they saw was our Bob. I cannot remember Bob ever missing a night.

In 2012 Bob was inducted as a Life Member. From time to time a director would try and entice Bob back on stage with a tantalizing role. They were hoping to see him back on the boards. He would always politely decline their offer. But there was one person that Bob could not say no to, our Bex was able to tempt him back under the spotlights. Bob's final performance was in 2019. It was a straight play created from letters that had been written to Lindy Chamberlain, titled Letters to Lindy.

Thank you, Bob, for all the ways you made our theatre great.

