

Farewell Susan Dale Crosthwaite

Lilly Gundacker
November 23, 2022



Susan Dale joined the Unification Church before I did. She was studying as a student nurse at Royal Children's Hospital. I joined in August 1975 when I was studying just down the road at Royal Melbourne Hospital.

Actually it was Susan that approached me first and asked me if she could ask me a question. I said I don't have time. Then the whole time sitting at the hairdresser's I kept wondering what it was she wanted to ask me.

So when I came out and Sandy approached me, I was ready.

Adelaide

Susan, you were the centre leader in [Adelaide](#) before I took over.

You told me of struggles and pits and challenges in the early mission days.

I experienced some of that as a church centre leader then in Adelaide and Canberra.

You told me how you were born pre-materely and nobody thought you would survive. Miraculously, you did!

Then you had serious kidney complications which you also mastered, with constant challenges and treatments.

I remember wondering why you always used so much hand cream and moisturizing lotion. I had oily skin and yours was dry.

Spiritual grandmothers

You spoke of Annette and Sigrin the spiritual grandmothers of our movement in Oceania.

I was astounded at your orderly manner and how you kept a pencil case and notebook even in the most austere circumstances.

You know what you wanted and worked diligently to acquire what you needed to get it.

Madison Square Garden

We were blessed at the same time in Madison Square Garden. You ended up going to Russia, you were in the USA, then in the UK.

Some 30 years after leaving Australia, we both met in Schmitten in 2010. You gave me the book "Emotion Code".

We never really worked together because we were both church leaders, sent on separate paths to lead and grow.

I had my five children quickly and you had to wait and pray and hope. And you won. You succeeded. I was so happy for you.

Send off

Now we send you off.

To pioneer a new course.

Susan, thank you for your investment, for your heart, for your tenacity, for your endurance. For your love and compassion. For all your work supporting the blessed family movement, the BFD.

I thought we took a photo in Schmitten. If I find it, I will post it.

Susan, you will be missed and are loved.

I am so happy that life goes on eternally in the spiritual world.



September 14, 2022 in Australia, Blog, Events





Adelaide in 1977

Queen Elizabeth II

With the passing of Queen Elizabeth, it is the time that people are sharing their personal experiences with Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

It was March 1977 when I was a missionary in the [Unification Church](#) in Adelaide, when Queen Elizabeth came to visit.





Queen Elizabeth II and Premier Don Dunstan

Rundle Mall

The newly opened Rundle Mall was a perfect promenade for the people to greet their Monarch.

We prepared a banner of welcome, and made our way down to Rundle Mall. It was cordoned off for Her Majesty to walk down the middle, moving from side to side to greet the crowds on both sides.

We were on the left side walking down, and she crossed over from the other side to our small party of four. We had prepared an envelope with leaflets about the Unification Church.

And there it was. The opportunity came. We had prepared. We had believed and we wanted to greet the Queen. There was Rodney, Tanya, Jayne and myself. I shook hands with her, she asked a question, paused politely and moved on. She took the envelope from Rodney. She passed on the envelope to her assistant. The Queen wore gloves as she shook hands.

She also received so many flowers and you hardly noticed that her assistants were there to free her hands to receive again from the next eager and loyal subject.

I was struck how she managed to be so inclusive, wanting to include everyone. We were delighted!

Later I noticed how she waved from her vehicle to one side while looking to the other and then swapped over.





Walking down Rundle Mall

The perfect diplomat!

Later when Prince Philip went to Parliament House the police saw our large banner and thought we were protesters.

They wanted to stop us. Then when they managed to see the front of the banner they were baffled and permitted us to continue. I remember seeing Prince Philipp looking out into the crowd and it seemed he was looking at us.

Photos of HRH taken from: <https://glamadelaide.com.au/photo-gallery-favourite-queen-elizabeth-moments-in-adelaide/>

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About the author

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Lilly Gundacker is an Australian living in Austria, now in Vienna. With a loving husband and gifted adult children' she excels at Communication, Family, Marriage and is an Organizational expert. As a retired International Civil Servant and dedicated Unificationist she motivates, inspires, engages, and makes a difference!