



A Funeral Mass for

Eileen Pardy

19<sup>th</sup> July 1934 — 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2020



**Eileen Pardy (O'Keeffe)**

**Daughter of**

Honora Arundell and Michael O'Keeffe

**Sister to**

Maggie, Elizabeth (Sr Patrick), Norie, Jack, Dan, and Leo

**Married**

Bernard Pardy – April 7<sup>th</sup> 1956

**Mother of**

Tess, Maree, Michael, Julianne, Brendan, Damien, Kevin, John, Carmel

**Mother in Law to**

Tom (dec), Chris, David, Janet, Mark

**Granny to**

Fiona, Aislin, Darcey, Karla, Jack, Matthew, Ally, Bridget, Samuel,  
Joseph, Thomas, Daisy-Kate, Poppy, Kitty Rose.

**Great Granny to**

Lola

**Mass offered at:**

Resurrection Parish Keysborough  
402 Corrigan Road, Keysborough

Thursday 12 November, 2020

**Priest**

Fr. Brian Collins

**Cemetery**

Springvale Botanical Gardens

## INTRODUCTORY RITES

### *Entrance*

Acknowledgement of Country: Maree Pardy

Welcome from Resurrection Parish

Hymn: Here I am Lord

Priest In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit

**All Amen.**

Welcome to Resurrection Parish: Fr. Brian Collins

### *Greeting*

Priest The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**All And with your spirit.**

### *Placing of Symbols*

Lighting of the Paschal Candle: Kevin

Sprinkling Water: Sam, Joe, Tom

Placement of White Cloth/Pall: Karla and Jack

Placement of Flowers: Michael and Brendan

Description of Symbols: Julianne

Placement of Symbols: Fiona, Aislin, Darcey

### *Sprinkling With Holy Water*

Priest In the waters of baptism, Eileen died with Christ and rose with Him to new life. May she now share with Him in eternal glory.

**All Amen**



### ***Lighting Of Paschal Candle***

Priest In baptism, Eileen received the light of Christ. That light has guided her throughout her life. May she now enjoy the risen life with her risen Lord.

**All     Amen**

Priest May almighty God have mercy on all of us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

**All     Amen**

### ***Opening Prayer***

Priest Let us pray.

**All     God of all consolation, open our hearts to your word,so that listening to it,  
we may comfort one another, finding light in time of darkness and faith in  
time of doubt.**

**We ask this through Christ our Lord.**

## **LITURGY OF THE WORD**

### ***First Reading***

Tess Pardy

A reading from Ecclesiastes 44:10-15

Here is a generous woman whose good works have not been forgotten.

In her descendants there remain a rich inheritance born of her.

Her descendants stand by the covenants and thanks to them, so do their children's children.

Their offspring will last forever, their glory will not fade.

Her body will be buried in peace, and her name will live on for all generations.

The people will proclaim her wisdom the assembly will celebrate her praises.

This is the Word of the Lord

**All     Thanks be to God**

## *Psalm 23*

All read together:

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

## *Second Reading*

Maureen Matthews

A reading from 2 Timothy 4:6-8

As for me, my life is already being poured away as an offering, and the time has come for me to depart. I have fought the good fight to the end. I have run the race to the finish. I have kept the faith; all there is to come for me now is the crown of uprightness which the Lord, the upright judge, will give to me on that day, and not only to me, but to all those who have longed for his appearing.

This is the Word of the Lord

**All      Thanks be to God**

### *Acclamation*

**All** I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord,  
Whoever believes in me will not die for ever.  
Alleluia Alleluia

### *Gospel*

Priest The lord be with you.

**All** And with your spirit.

Priest A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

**All** Glory to you, O Lord

A reading from the Gospel of Matthew (22:34-40)

But when the Pharisees heard that He had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together. Then one of them, a lawyer, asked Him a question, testing Him, and saying, "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?" Jesus said to him, "'You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets also."

### *Words of Remembrance*

Carmel, Damien

### *Messages from people at home*

Karla, Bridget, Ally

### *Homily*

Fr Brian

## ***Prayers Of The Faithful***

Daisy-Kate

We thank Jesus, Mary and Joseph for Granny's great laugh and sick sense of humour. May we continue to spread the same joy and positivity particularly to those that are less fortunate than ourselves. Lord Hear Us.

**ALL Lord hear our prayer**

Poppy

We give thanks for Granny never ever forgetting our birthdays and always making sure we got a card in the post and a phone call. From this we have learnt the importance of giving to others and we pray that we can strive to also do this in our own lives. Lord Hear Us.

**ALL Lord hear our prayer**

Kitty Rose

Granny thank-you for inspiring me to make the choice to get baptised and confirmed. I know you loved Mary Mackillop and so I chose Mary for my confirmation name. Mary inspires us to be strong in faith and hope, just like you. Let's pray that your memory stays in our heart and we can be as strong and kind as you forever. Lord Hear Us.

**ALL Lord hear our prayer**

David

Eileen you knew the value of connecting with each other through the simple things in life. I will hold dear our memories of sitting on the couch together watching Doc Martin night after night and laughing so much. Let us pray that others can learn the importance of simple things bringing so much joy. Lord Hear Us.

**ALL Lord hear our prayer**

Carmel

We pray for everyone that loved Eileen and hope that her memory will live on in them. Mum you touched the hearts of many, connecting with so many in joy and in pain. Let us pray that we all continue to know the importance of human relationships and the value of the human spirit. Lord Hear Us.

**ALL Lord hear our prayer**



## LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

### *Offertory Procession*

John Pardy

### *Offertory Hymn*

*Ode to Joy*

### *Preparation Of Offerings*

Priest Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received the bread we offer you; fruit of the earth and work of the human hands, it will become for us the bread of life.

**All Blessed be God for ever.**

Priest Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received the wine we offer you; fruit of the vine and work of the human hands, it will become our spiritual drink.

**All Blessed be God for ever.**

Priest Pray, brethren, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

**All May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of His name, for our good and the good of all His Holy Church.**

### *Prayer Over Offerings*

Priest As we humbly present to you these sacrificial offerings, O Lord, for the salvation of your servant Eileen, we beseech your mercy, that she, who did not doubt your Son to be a loving Saviour, may find in Him a merciful Judge. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

**All Amen.**

### *Preface*

Priest The Lord be with you

**All And with your spirit**

Priest Lift up your hearts

**All We lift them up to the Lord**

Priest Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All It is right and just to do so**

Priest It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Christ our Lord.

In him the hope of blessed resurrection has dawned, that those saddened by the certainty of dying might be consoled by the promise of immortality to come. Indeed for your faithful, Lord, life is changed not ended, and, when this earthly dwelling turns to dust, an eternal dwelling is made ready for them in heaven.

And so, with Angels and Archangels, with Thrones and Dominions, and with all the hosts and Powers of heaven, we sing the hymn of your glory, as without end we acclaim:

**All Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

### ***Eucharistic Prayer II***

Priest: You are indeed Holy, O Lord, the fount of all holiness.

Make holy, therefore, these gifts, we pray, by sending down your Spirit upon them like the dewfall, so that they may become for us the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.

At the time He was betrayed and entered willingly into his Passion, He took bread and, giving thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take this, all of you, and eat of it, for this is my Body, which will be given up for you."

In a similar way, when supper was ended, He took the chalice and, once more giving thanks, He gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take this, all of you, and drink from it, for this is the chalice of my Blood, the Blood of the new and eternal covenant, which will be poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins."

Priest The mystery of faith

**All When we eat this bread, and drink this cup we proclaim your death Oh Lord, until you come again, until you come again.**

Priest Therefore, as we celebrate the memorial of his Death and Resurrection, we offer you, Lord, the Bread of life and the Chalice of salvation, giving thanks that you have held us worthy to be in your presence and minister to you. Humbly we pray that, partaking of the Body and Blood of Christ, we may be gathered into one by the Holy Spirit.

Remember, Lord, your Church, spread throughout the world, and bring her to the fullness of charity, together with Francis our Pope and Peter our Bishop and all the clergy.

Remember your servant Eileen, whom you have called from this world to yourself. Grant that she who was united with your Son in a death like His, may also be one with Him in His Resurrection.

Remember also our brothers and sisters who have fallen asleep in the hope of the resurrection, and all who have died in your mercy: welcome them into the light of your face.

Have mercy on us all, we pray, that with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, with blessed Joseph, her Spouse with the blessed Apostles, and all the Saints who have pleased you throughout the ages, we may merit to be coheirs to eternal life, and may praise and glorify you through your Son, Jesus Christ.

Through him, and with him, and in him, O God, almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, for ever and ever.

**All      Amen**

## **COMMUNION RITE**

### ***The Lord's Prayer***

Priest At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

**All      Our Father, who art in heaven  
hallowed be thy name:  
thy kingdom come, they will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.**

Priest Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the help of your mercy, we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. The people:

**All For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.**

### ***Sign Of Peace***

Priest Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your Apostles: Peace I leave you, my peace I give you, look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and graciously grant her peace and unity in accordance with your will. Who live and reign for ever and ever.

**All Amen**

Priest The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**All And with your spirit**

Priest Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

### ***Breaking Of Bread***

Priest Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

### ***Communion***

Priest Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

**All Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.**

### ***Communion Songs***

Instrumental: Ave Maria

Poppy & Sam: Supermarket Flowers

### ***Prayer After Communion***

Priest Let us pray. Lord God, whose Son left us, in the Sacrament of His Body, food for the journey, mercifully grant that, strengthened by it, our sister Eileen, may come to the eternal table of Christ. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

**All Amen**



## CONCLUDING RITE

### *Images of Eileen*

Jack

### *Final Commendation*

Priest Before we go our separate ways, let us take leave of Eileen. May our farewell express our affection for her; may it ease our sadness and strengthen our hope. One day we shall joyfully greet her again when the love of Christ, which conquers all things, destroys even death itself.

### *Song of Farewell*

Priest Saints of God, come to Eileen's aid! Hasten to meet her, angels of the Lord!

**All Receive Eileen's soul and present her to God the Most High.**

Priest May Christ, who called you, take you to himself; may angels lead you to the bosom of Abraham.

**All Receive Eileen's soul and present her to God the Most High.**

Priest Eternal rest grant unto Eileen, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her.

**All Receive Eileen's soul and present her to God the Most High.**

### *Prayer of Commendation*

Priest To you, O Lord, we commend the soul of Eileen, your servant; in the sight of this world she is now dead; in your sight may she live for ever. Forgive whatever sins she committed through human weakness and in your goodness grant her everlasting peace. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**All Amen.**

Priest May the angels lead you into paradise; may the martyrs come to welcome you and take you to the holy city, the new and eternal Jerusalem. Eternal rest grant unto her O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace.

**All Amen**

### *Pall Bearers*

Fiona, Bridget, Karla, Ali, Daisy-Kate, Aislin, Darcey, Poppy, Kitty

***Recessional Hymn:*** *I'll Never Find Another You*

## Eileen Pardy - Biography

Eileen O'Keeffe was born at the old hospital in Terang on 19th July 1934. The hospital was 20km from the family's dairy farm in Castle Carey Road, Glenormiston North; a bumpy two-hour trip for her mother, Honora and father, Michael.

The family lived on a small, flat, fertile dairy farm, in the days when a herd of 50 or 60 cows could be milked in 2 hours and would provide enough money to raise a decent sized family. Eileen's brothers and sisters were called: Maggie, Elizabeth, Norie, Jack, Dan, and Leo. Their farm was nestled among other small holdings, all producing the next generation of farmers, teachers, nurses, doctors, scholars, and sportspeople.



Eileen went to primary school at St Josephs in Noorat, travelling there and back in a jinker pulled by their horse Taffy. On the way, they stopped off to pick up the Kenna children, who would run in from the cow yard. In later years, they would drop Norie at the butter factory, where she had a job in the office.

Taffy was hard to catch, and was very slow on the way to school but much quicker on the way home. In the late 1930s, when Eileen was six, she can remember being sent home from school early because of bushfires. Taffy stopped half way, and wouldn't budge. They turned back and waited at a neighbour's farm. Their father came and

fetches them and took them home when it was safe.

Eileen might have been short, but she had extra long curly hair, always carefully brushed and decorated with ribbons. She was a fast reading bookworm who read every book that came into the house. At the school sports and on picnic days, she earned the nickname Roy Northeast, a famous local sprinter, because of her complete lack of speed. It was a joke that she was proud to retell.

Eileen's mother, Honora, died at 47 when Eileen was only 7. Losing a mother when you are old is hard enough, but losing her at 7 is worse. Eileen died at 86. She had been missing her mum for 79 years.





Eileen was an excellent student and at 13 transferred to St Annes College in Warnambool. She was one of only a small percentage of women who earned their Leaving Certificate (Year 11). She could easily have got her VCE and went to university to become an English professor, but she wanted to go nursing instead.

Eileen left school at 16 and spent a year working at Terang Hospital as a nurse's

assistant. The next year, she went to Melbourne to become a Mothercraft Nurse. Eileen did her training at Broadmeadows Baby Home and lived in the Nurses Residence. It was an adventurous time, and the start of lifelong relationships with: Pauline Niesen, Winnie Pekin, Greta Perret, Jo Lannegan, Paddy Dawson, Maree Brennan, and Marie Wilson.

Marie's aunty ran a café in the Wentworth building on Collins Street, and the young nurses would often visit for free tea and cake. They also caught the tram to John Coleman's milk bar to stare at him while they drank their milkshakes. They kept regular appointments at the big dances in the city - the Irish Dance in Roma House, Elizabeth Street on a Saturday, and the Masons Dance in Collins Street on a Sunday.

Eileen met her husband, Bernard, at the Masons Dance in Collins Street. She liked him because, "he was good looking, a great dancer, and always laughing."

When she completed her training, she took a full-time position at the Mercy hospital in East Melbourne. In 1956, while still working at the hospital, she married Bernie.

After their honeymoon at Phillip Island, Eileen and Bernie moved into an apartment in Balaclava. Pretty soon their first child was on the way. During her pregnancy, Eileen had acute appendicitis. After the operation, Eileen and Bernie gave up the apartment and moved in with Bernie's mother in the house in Golf Road Oakleigh.

When the second child, Maree, was on her way, the family bought a brand new house at 69 Albert Avenue Springvale. They moved in, in 1959, and Eileen made it a home. Every Friday for the next sixty years, Eileen pushed her pram up the hill and down to Springvale Road to do the



weekly shop. It was quite a social occasion. She would stop and chat to people she knew from the school and church, other young mothers, and familiar faces. The shopkeepers all

looked after her like a friend, especially Pat the Butcher. On her way home, if it was hot, she'd stop off and have a Lemon Squash filled with ice blocks at Carr's Milkbar.

On Sundays she made sure all her children went to church, and after church they'd eat a roast together. There would be gravy from the pan, and mint sauce for the peas. Sometimes, after lunch, her sister Norie came to visit with her husband Max, their four children, and warm scones. Sometimes Evelyn and Teddy would visit, and fill the home with roaring laughter. On Thursday's, her brother Leo, who worked at a nearby school, would always drop in for lunch.

Eileen had nine children in eleven years: Therese, Maree, Michael, Julianne, Brendan, Damien, Kevin, John, and Carmel. There were no twins, but being a young catholic, all were born very close together.

Rearing nine children is hard work: washing nappies, making breakfast, packing lunches, ironing, washing, washing, washing, school uniforms, clean school shoes, sports uniforms, netball tops, little aths tops, footy jumpers, dinner on the table at six, roast on Sunday. Eileen still found time to keep reading books, watching television, going to the theatre, helping on the tuckshop, in the school library, at the school fete, and cleaning the church.

Eileen took a paid job as a dishwasher at the Caulfield and Sandown racetracks on Saturdays and Wednesdays. She really loved her job there. It was another social outing, working in amongst the hustle and bustle of chefs, waitresses, waiters, glass boys, bartenders, cashiers, and security staff. Over the years the crowds at the races steadily dropped, and less and less people had jobs there, but Eileen stayed on until the very end, until there were no dishes to wash.



Eileen was especially proud to regularly take her children to Melbourne's best live theatres. Her husband Bernie worked for JC Williamsons and was always bringing home tickets for shows at Her Majestys, the Comedy, and the Princess. She loved the literary arts, plays, and movies. She was always so thankful to share this love with her children.

Eileen also loved football and had at least four teams. First, it was Essendon because they wore the same guernsey as Glenormiston, then Fitzroy when Kevin O'Keeffe went there.



Later, she took up Geelong because of Paul Couch, and Footscray was another of her teams because it was where two of her daughters lived. When any of her teams played Essendon, she always went for the Bombers because of John Coleman, and lately, Anthony McDonald-Tipungwuti..

Eileen didn't like being the centre of attention, but one Melbourne Cup Day she couldn't avoid it. She decided to have a bet on number 1 and a bet on number 6, but when her husband went down to the tote, he put all her money on number 16. Number 16 turned out to be Piping Lane and it won the cup at 40-1. It made a great afternoon and gave her another remarkable story.



Eileen's natural past-time seemed to be staying in the background and caring for her people. She felt rewarded to be talking to people, and listening to what was happening in their lives, thinking about them after, and praying for them. Next time she saw them, she asked about the things they'd told her last time.

When her children became independent, Eileen had more time to herself and widened her social circle. She loved travelling by train into the city to meet Betty Rogers, Siobhan Moran, Pat Fleming, Ann Archibald, the Moore girls, and many others. Sometimes they'd buy a coffee at Coles cafeteria and Norie would bring a tin of cakes, someone else would bring cut sandwiches. Eileen also spent many hours with her two good friends: Meg and Carol, going to Garden World, to the cinema, and having long philosophical chats over a miraculous cappuccino. Each school holidays, Leo organised an extra long lunch for their cousins at Tsindos Greek Restaurant in Lonsdale Street.

In 2016, Eileen's husband Bernie died, he was 91. She spent the last five years living on her own in the family home. Eileen seemed to enjoy the peace and quiet. Eileen valued the ordinary things, the small things. She enjoyed time on her own with a book, or the television. Every

day she received phone calls from one of her friends who wanted to have a chat. Eileen was exceptionally good at talking on the phone, especially with Evelyn or Norie.



For the last six months of her life, Eileen moved in with Carmel and her family. Eileen seem to flourish, back in a busy home with three growing daughters, and both parents working.

She watched Doc Martin with David, and Media Watch, the Front Bar, and the Footy. She liked sitting on the back deck in the sun, doing the crossword, and getting up early to have her first cuppa with Carmel.

She would ask Carmel what she needed do. “Nothing mum. It’s your turn to be looked after now.’

A little unnerved by this, Eileen would ask, “Am I right? Am I right?” Carmel would reply, “Yes. You’re right. You’ve got your paper. You’ve got your hearing aid. You’ve had your brekky. You’ve got your watch on. You’re right.”

Eileen Pardy died peacefully on 23rd October 2020. When the time came for her to die, it was because her body could not hold her spirit any more. She went to the hospital without complaint. She lay on the bed in a quiet room and waited for all her children to come and visit her one last time. After her last child had gone home, Eileen left her body, grateful that she had lived almost 40 years longer than her own mother, and pleased that she would be with her again.

May she Rest in Peace.

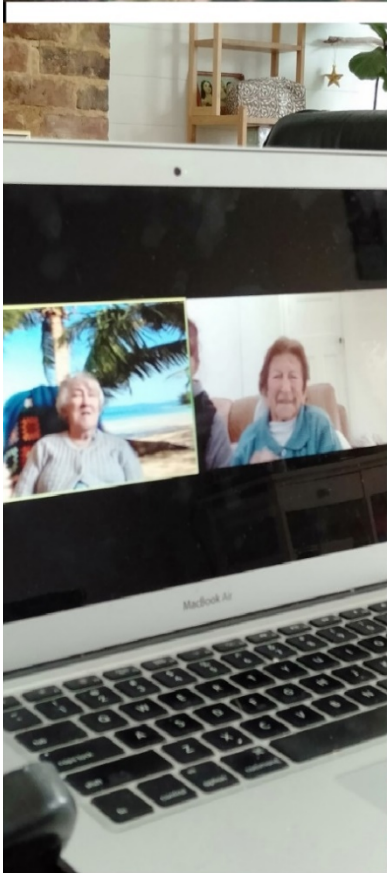
*Eileen’s family would like to thank everyone for the many expressions of kindness, care, love and support shown at this sad time.*

*A special thanks to those who were unable to attend but reached out by phone and over the internet.*

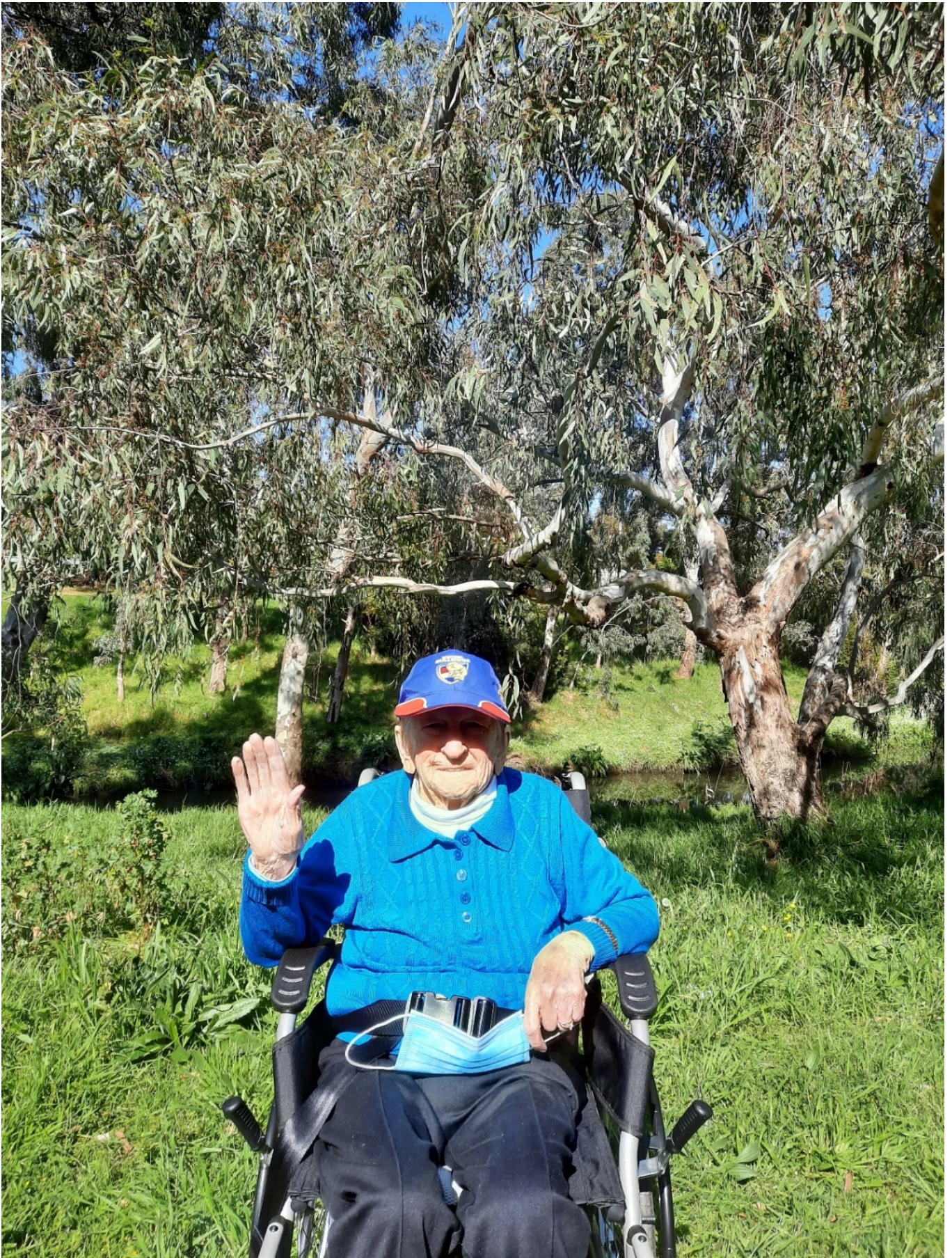


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Eileen Parry A beautiful soul waving in the sunshine