



40 Years of Funeral Directing

SIMON MULQUEEN ACHIEVES CAREER MILESTONE



In Feb 2020

Continuing a Family tradition that started with his Great Great Grandfather, Peter Fizelle back in 1886 **Simon Mulqueen**, in February 2020, achieved a substantial milestone - 40 Years of serving the community as a Funeral Director, this makes him Bendigo's most experienced Funeral Director.

Although helping out in the family business from the tender age of 13, Simon's full time career commenced on February 3rd 1980 at age 16. He was too young to drive the Hearse and he worried that at such a young age client families would not take him seriously. However with the confidence and support of his father Peter, it was not long before he was guiding families through the difficult period immediately following the death of their loved ones and quickly gained a reputation for genuine and caring dedication to his work. His father, **Peter Mulqueen** was renowned in Bendigo over his 50 years of dedicated attention to the many thousands of families he assisted over the years. Simon and Peter worked side by side for almost 20 years before Peter's passing in 1999 at the age of 69. Both Peter and Simon shared a desire to provide quality service to those families they cared for. Simon also shares his father's love of the family tradition of Funeral Directing which started when Peter Fizelle, a local Cab and Stable proprietor, entered a partnership with William Oakley in 1886.



PETER FIZELLE 1840-1901

Simon's Great Great Grandfather



MICHAEL MULQUEEN 1870-1954

Simon's Great Grandfather



Simon is congratulated by his father Peter on taking charge of his first Funeral c 1982

Simon's career has seen many changes in the industry; In the 1980's almost every Funeral involved the congregation singing a hymn, today music is sourced from a variety of artists and is usually played on a CD or MP3 device. In the 80's 95% of funerals involved burial, today around 65% of funerals are cremations, and in those early days Church Funerals dominated, however now Funeral Chapels and other venues are dominant.

Simon's knowledge and expertise has enabled him to be involved in a number of industry related committee's aimed at improving the industry and it's service to the Public. He was the Founder of the *Victorian Independent Funeral Directors Association* and held the office of President and Secretary.

He has also been President and Secretary of the *National Funeral Directors Association of Australia* the only local Funeral Director to lead the industry nationally. Simon was also a member of the Kennett Government's 'Cemetery Act Review Committee' in the 1990's and the Brumby Government's 'Funeral Industry Ministerial Advisory Council' 2008-2011. Simon is seen as an authority in the Pre-paid Funeral field and has developed many initiatives adopted by government in elements of what is now the *Funerals Act 2006*.



JOHN (Jack) MULQUEEN 1899-1950

Simon's Grandfather

Simon has a passion for the city in which he was born and received a **Centenary Medal** in 2001 for his community Service, most notably this was for his work as a volunteer running the Bendigo Easter Fair when it was still a self funded community based organisation. He was also a member of the inaugural Bendigo Tourism Board and the Bicentennial Community Consultative Committee, Simon was also treasurer of the Marong Racing Club helping raise funds for local primary schools.

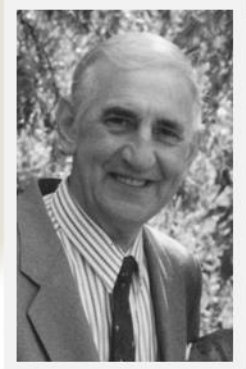


Simon and Peter take charge of Bishop Stewart's Funeral c 1988

With a keen interest in Bendigo's history Simon has an extensive collection of Historic Photographs and Memorabilia dating back to the 1800's along with Funeral Industry and Bendigo Easter Fair Memorabilia.

In 2012 Simon established his own independent Funeral Business Trading as '**BENDIGO FUNERALS**' with new Chapel and Offices situated at 29 Miller Street, Flora Hill, Bendigo, where he and his wife Susan along with their staff, provide quality service that is both personal & highly professional.

Until it was sold in October 2016, Simon also operated a branch in Ballarat under the name of **F. W. Barnes & Son**, a 120 year old company which, over 26 years, he had developed to provide quality Funeral Care & Facilities to the Ballarat Community.



PETER JOHN MULQUEEN

1930-1999

Simon's Father

Simon is grateful to all in the community who have supported him and have entrusted the care of their loved ones to him over the past 40+ years. He is determined to continue to strive for the highest quality care and attention to Bendigo families long into the future, maybe even reaching the 50 year milestone achieved by his father and 4th generation Funeral Director, the late **Peter Mulqueen**.



Simon, Sue, Murdoch, Elish,

Harrison & Ethan MULQUEEN

BENDIGO FUNERALS

Funerals to Celebrate Life



BENDIGO FUNERAL CENTRE - 29 Miller Street, BENDIGO 5444 0400 www.smfd.com.au

SIMON MULQUEEN

Simon Mulqueen is Bendigo's most experienced Funeral Director. Our only address is 29 Miller Street, Flora Hill, Bendigo