

A 'gentle human being' who loved his work

Ronald Eric Denniss
14.6.30 - 15.2.04

A MUCH-loved and highly-regarded member of the Hawkesbury community was farewelled at a funeral service attended by 200 people at the Uniting Church at Castle Hill on February 20.

Ronald Eric Denniss (**right**) known as Ron by his widow Nancy and his many friends, was born on June 14, 1930 and spent his life at the historic family home "Hillcrest" in North Richmond.

At the same church where a love story began with their marriage 28 years earlier, Nancy, a well-known local civil celebrant, delivered the eulogy for her beloved Ron.

She described him as "a

Gazette

OBITUARY

unique and beautiful human being, a gentle human being".

Nancy spoke of Ron's happy childhood, shattered by the death of his mother Elsie in 1943 when he was only 13, and of the special bond of love and friendship he shared with his father, Eric.

Ron's family were strict Methodists. He loved animals, adopting a few pets including dogs, cats, snakes and a cockatoo. He was also skilled at making things like billy carts and kites.

While travel, tennis, reading, music and watching television were all pursuits he enjoyed,

Ron had a particular passion for his cars and the three motorbikes he owned - a 250 BSA, a "speed twin" Triumph and a Bantam "Beaser".

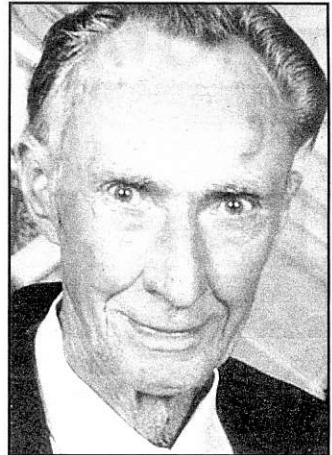
Ron and Nancy started their earthmoving business R.E. Denniss Pty Ltd in 1976, and Nancy recalled his tendency to hard work.

"Ron's biggest interest in life was work, work, work!" she said.

"On his headstone I'm going to write 'I thought I was going to live to be 110 and work till I was 99,'" she told mourners. Illness forced his retirement at the age of 70 however.

"He had a beautiful outlook on life, his sense of humour touched and warmed everyone's heart," she said.

Ron Denniss died at the age



of 73 in the Hills District Private Hospital on Sunday, February 15 after a long illness.