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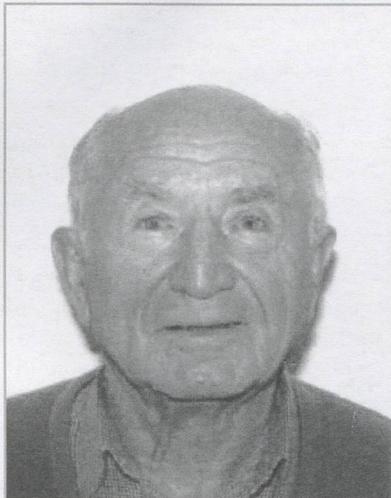
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Obituary

Theodor "Ted" Lischer

06-12-1916 ~ 17-07-2012



Ted Lischer was born on July 2nd 1922 in Ruswil, Central Switzerland, to his parents Theodor and Agatha. Ted, his three brothers and ten sisters. He grew up on a medium sized family dairy farm. There was always something on at the Lischers and Ted learnt to work hard from a very young age.

Upon leaving school, he helped his parents on their farm. When he was 20 years old, he enrolled in the Swiss Army. A few years went by and space for everyone at home became more limited. As a result, Ted decided in 1952 to immigrate by boat to New Zealand, with the full encouragement from his then future wife Annelis Williman. On arrival, Ted received the sad news that his father had died during his journey to New Zealand.

This was quite hard for Ted.

Ted first settled in the Dargaville district, working on a dairy farm. After a year, he decided that a move south to the Waikato was best. At that time, Annelis also arrived in New Zealand. They married in Morrinsville and began their life together working on a farm in the Tauhei area. Two years later, they started sharemilking and became proud parents of their first child, Barbara. At the end of November 1956, they tragically lost Barbara in a car accident at a railway crossing just outside Morrinsville township. This was a terrible blow for the young couple who at the time was expecting its second child Ursula. In the following years, Ted and Annelis added to their family with the birth of Bernhard and Brigitte.

In 1962, they purchased their own farm on Alexandra Rd, Manawaru, Te Aroha. They worked hard to improve the farm and raise their young family. Ted was a very good farmer who was well liked and respected in the wider community. Ted was also a good father who was humble and had a kind manner. He enjoyed spending time at the family's Whangamata family beach house. Both Ted and Annelis enjoyed the beach life and relaxing with their children.

Everyone who has met Ted will comment on his happy demeanour - always smiling, laughing and ready to share a joke. He showed a genuine

and well meaning interest in other people's lives, with always a kind word to say.

In 1992, the family lost Brigitte far too soon. It was very difficult for both Ted and Annelis to come to terms with this.

Ted enjoyed good relationships with the many sharemilkers he engaged to run the farm. He treated them and their families well and with respect, and gave them space to do their job. This approach to farm ownership also enabled Ted to spend more time at the golf course and bowling green, and tend his fantastic vegetable garden.

In 2002, Annelis died at age 83 and was sorely missed by all, especially Ted. He continued to live on the farm for a few more years, but eventually decided that a move to a retirement village in Matamata would be in his best interests. Shortly afterwards, he met Rose. They got married and Ted moved to Katikati to live with Rose. He passed away in Katikati on November 18th 2012.

Ted is survived by his second wife Rose, children Ursula and Bernhard, and grandson Andrew.

I will remember Ted fondly for the kind, likable man he was. His pioneering spirit infected me and helped spur my move to New Zealand. For that alone, my family and I will always be indebted to him.

By Walter Wuest

Swiss ballot results out

On 3 March 2013, Swiss citizens voted on three important issues. Up to 152,000 citizens, including members of the Swiss expatriate community, had the option to vote online as part of an ongoing trial with e-voting.

Limiting corporate pay packages

A proposal to rein in pay-outs to top managers and company board members won an overwhelming majority of votes. This will give

shareholders a veto right over salaries and bonuses for the top flight of listed companies. Tough negotiations are expected in parliament over the application of the initiative.

Providing for day care facilities

A proposal to promote the creation of child day care facilities, boost the chances of young mothers in the job market and improve the work-life balance for families did not succeed. Despite a majority of voters in favour

of the constitutional amendment, the proposal failed to win a majority among the 26 cantons - a rare occurrence in modern Swiss history.

Urban sprawl

The third issue voted on - a 15-year freeze on developing areas in a bid to stop urban sprawl - was passed with a clear majority of 63 per cent.

Detailed voting results are available on:
www.admin.ch/ch/d/pore/va/20130303/index.html
Source: www.swissinfo.ch (4 March 2013)