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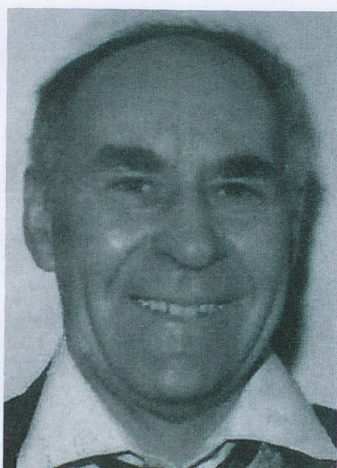
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Obituary



Karl Hans Signer

1938 – 2019

Karl Signer was born in St. Gallen on 20 January 1938 as the second child of his parents. He had five sisters and two brothers. Karl was a keen soccer player and played for FC Brühl-St. Gallen until his emigration.

He emigrated in 1959 after completing his apprenticeship as a tiler, and after his military service, the Rekrutenschule in Emmen. After travelling around Australia with friends, he crossed the Tasman Sea to New Zealand, where he settled in Wellington. There he first worked in the building industry, but soon saw an opportunity in providing European food, one of his passions in life. He opened a delicatessen in Miramar.

In 1966 Karl married Theresa who unfortunately developed a number of health issues, and was never really well. The couple had no children; Karl's many groups of friends became his family. Aside from his membership of the Wellington Swiss Club over many decades, including on the committee, Karl made many friends in the hospitality business, and with his neighbours where he lived, in Breaker Bay. He felt very much at ease with his Thai and Chinese friends, supported them as much as he could and was, especially in his last years and months and weeks, very much supported by them.

Karl loved being creative. He made a sandy garden opposite his home with driftwood and rocks collected around the shore line. Almost to his last year Karl kept himself busy with a cleaning job; that would pay for his vices, he used to say jokingly, his cigarettes, the odd flutter on the pokie machines, and occasionally a drink. Right until April 2019 he came to our WSC Jassen Sunday afternoons, and he greatly enjoyed the challenge - he remembered his cards and everybody else's cards as well. Karl passed away peacefully in Wellington Hospital on 2 June 2019.

The Wellington Swiss Club and the Swiss Society extend their sympathy and condolences to Karl's family and friends.

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Dear readers,
we, the Helvetia Team, wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

