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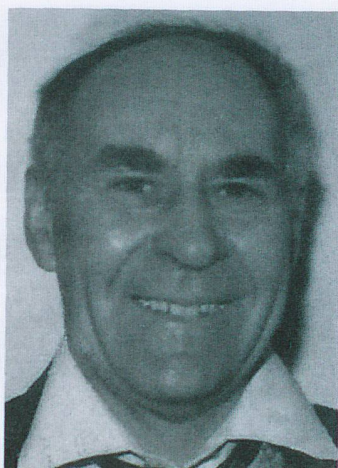
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Obituary



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.

Swiss Society of New Zealand Inc.

Patron	David Vogelsanger, Ambassador
President	Hans Vetsch Ph 07 855-3294 or 021 658-733. Email: Hans.vetsch@swiss.org.nz
Secretary	Anita Zuber, PO Box 24061, Hamilton 3253 Mobile 027 498 5170. Email: Anita.zuber@swiss.org.nz
Vice President	Othmar Hebler Phone 06 278 6878. Email: Othmar.hebler@swiss.org.nz
Editor	Heidi Wehrle Phone 07 834 9286. Email: Editor@swiss.org.nz
Treasurer	Sandrine Smith Ph 021 418 695. Email: treasurer@swiss.org.nz
Riflemaster	Manuela Epp Phone 07 210 0982 or 0210 8483029. Email: Manuela.epp@swiss.org.nz

Delegates to the Swiss Abroad Conference in Switzerland

Delegate	Peter Ehrler, 46 Wesley Ave, Frankleigh Park, New Plymouth 4310 Ph 06 753 3441. Email: peter.ehrler@swissonline.ch
Deputy Delegate	Peter Canziani, 30 Herekieke St, Turangi 3334 Ph 07 386 7775. Email: canziap@gmail.com

Secretaries of the Swiss Clubs

Auckland	Daniela Bossard, 3C/28 Stanwell Street, Parnell, Auckland 1052 Ph 027 527 5835, Email: daniela.bossard@swiss.org.nz
Hamilton	Anita Zuber, PO Box 24061, Hamilton 3253 Mobile 027 498 5170. Email: Anita.zuber@swiss.org.nz
Taranaki	Marianne Drummond, 508 Salisbury Road, RD24, Stratford 4394 Ph 06 7628 757. Email: littleacres@xtra.co.nz
Wellington	Trudi Fill-Weidmann, 36B Chamberlain Road, Karori, Wellington 6012 Ph 021 565617. Email: wellingtonswissclub@gmail.com
Christchurch contact	Matthias Damm. Email: mn.damm45@gmail.com

Swiss Government Representatives

Embassy of Switzerland	Level 12, Maritime Towers, 10 Custom House Quay, Wellington 6140 Email: wellington@eda.admin.ch Website: www.eda.admin.ch/wellington. Phone 04 472 1593
Consulate of Switzerland	Adrian Blaser, 157B Colwill Road, Massey, Auckland 0614 Ph 09 281 3272 or 021 232 79 98. Email: auckland@honrep.ch

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

