

FAREWELL SANDY - A MAN FOR ALL SEASONS

*We're here to farewell Sandy,
A man we'll miss so much;
A man who left so many marks,
He had the magic touch.*

*He was calm and innovative,
Could fix most things that broke;
In the jargon of the Outback,
He was just a Super Bloke.*

*For the land was in his forebears,
He was born to plough and plant;
To be a cattleman, a farmer;
To grasp life at every chance.*

*For I too, have loved a farmer,
And I know how hard they work;
Be there to help a mate in need,
No task too big to shirk.*

*For far too many years to count
The Begbies tilled the land;
Their home was "Dunbar" on the Downs,
Their farming skills renowned.*

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*Educated at a tiny school,
And then Toowoomba Prep;
And then to Churchie Grammar
Where he became a rep.*

*For rugby union where he led,
He could dazzle with his speed;
And hurdle cross-bars in the gym,
If he thought there was a need.*

*His education was complete,
With a year or two at Gatton;
And at some time met Diana,
And he knew she really mattered.*

*I think they wed in Sixty-eight,
Stayed at 'Dunbar' for a decade;
Then shifted south to 'Bronte'
Where for twenty years they stayed.*

*They raised three lovely children,
Tracy, Patricia, Scott;
They increased the clan by seven,
They were such a happy lot.*

*Then Begbie Seniors saw the light,
And opted for a change;
Brought all their goods and chattels,
To the wondrous Blackall Range*

*And Sandy tilled the soil again,
Created gardens of renown;
Became a fixture well-respected
In our charming country town.*

*With his thirst for knowledge and adventure,
He sailed the Seven Seas;
They saw all aspects of the World,
And life was such a breeze.*

*He shared his love of gardening,
Loved his family, loved his cows;
And now with sorrow we farewell
And sing "Now is the Hour"
To say "Farewell to Sandy"
Whom we always will recall.*

*Lisa Plucknett
Maleny (2022)*