

MITCHAM FOOTBALL CLUB – ‘HALL OF FAME MEMBER’ (#4)

Graham Cassidy

(1937 – 2018 Age 81)



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Graham was a Mitcham local boy. Whilst Graham played some of his junior football at both Whitehorse Rovers and Ferntree Gully, at 15 years of age he was enticed to Mitcham FC by the then Captain Coach Ken Herbert, formerly from Hawthorn FC.

Graham was a very quick and skillful player who later spent a short time at South Melbourne FC. Some may say he was a ‘smarter businessman than a player’ as he started the Graham Cassidy Taxi Trucks. This business was a first of its time in the eastern suburbs, which he ran with his wife Beverley with much success.

In 1970, as a former President and now Club Secretary, he was charged with the job to recruit players and ‘bring home’ a long-awaited Premiership to Tigerland. Graham duly recruited 6 talented players, some from Richmond and South Melbourne and that year in the Grand final Mitcham defeated the highly dominant Scoresby outfit by 5 points to win the 1970 Premiership. Mission achieved!

Whether it was initiating junior football clinics, improving the Club social facilities, setting up the Mitcham Sporting Club or thinking way outside the square, Graham did it. He initiated rock concerts at Walker Park with the hugely popular ‘Rockin the East’ concerts at Walker Park, held in 1997 and 1999. These community concerts hosted by MFC and run by Graham and his team were for the benefit of the local kids whom he always had a passion for.

Graham was a quiet, deep thinker, who loved challenges and achievement through hard work. He was respected by many, over several decades of his service at the club. Primarily, Graham always had Mitcham FC at heart, long after he ceased actively being involved in the Club.



Graham at work on game-day in 1966

Active Service: 28 years

Life Membership 1966

Hall of Fame 2010 – Foundation Member

MFC Player: 11 years, 1953 - 1962

Games played: 162

Committee: 7 years, 1955 - 1956

President: 4 years, 1964 - 1967

Secretary: 1 year, 1970 / a Premiership year

President PPOA: 3 years, 1986 - 1988

Trainer: 4 years, over various years.



Graham with the local Mayor Cr Valda Arrowsmith at Walker Park in the 1980s