

Celebrating 25 years in Nowra

AW1273218

Happy 25th anniversary!

Look forward to the next 25 years!

Lawrence/Harrison Financial Services

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AW1275057



CELEBRATING: 25 years of Harvey World Travel in Nowra Kevin Longford, Emma Longford, Chris Thistlethwaite and Catherine Longford reflect on special moments for the business.

Devoted to community

Businessman Kevin Longford, along with his staff and clients, celebrated 25 years of Harvey World Travel in Nowra during November.

The experienced travel agent is known within the community not only for his business expertise, but for his commitment to helping others.

Kevin first purchased Longford's Southern Delivery in July 1968, which he owned for 20 years.

His daughter Emma shared some of his stories from that time, including one of a woman who had purchased furniture from St Vincent de Paul, but was unable to transport it home.

Vinnies staff phoned Kevin, who delivered the furniture free of charge. "I found out that happened numerous times and he never asked for payment," Emma said.

Kevin was also involved with Bomaderry Lions Club for 17 years.

During this time he would collect a truckload of paper from the paper mill and various shops around town to deliver to schools and workshops for special needs children.

In times of bushfire, Kevin collected bales of hay for local farmers for livestock when there was none available in the local area.

The popular Lions Club Carols by Candlelight used to be held at the showground, when in 1981 Kevin took over co-ordinating the event he moved it to Harry Sawkins Park where it is currently held.

"He took it from about 150 people attending to thousands," Emma said.

Kevin has been a Cambewarra resident for 49 years.

When major bushfires hit in the late 1960s, Kevin and a number of other locals spent nights up on Cambewarra Mountain fighting to stop the flames reaching the village.

Kevin also served nine years in the navy, and spent time on the HMAS Melbourne during Vietnam.

He discharged after his first daughter was born as "family was more important to dad than life at sea," Emma said.

In 1988, Kevin purchased Harvey World Travel Nowra, which at the time was located in Egans Lane.

During his time with the company, he has bought over 70 cars locally, helped small businesses with starting up and given away countless trips as prizes for fund-raising events.

Emma recalled one special travel arrangement Kevin made for a young girl suffering rare Maple Syrup Syndrome.

"It involved speaking with US customs to protect her medication, which had a shelf life of one day if opened," she said.

"Dad arranged for her to travel to the east coast of the US with no hassle and no cost to the family.

"There were only 12 kids in the world which suffered from this disease and dad wanted to make sure she could go to the conference they were holding.

"This was one of his proudest moments in travel."

Kevin has also been involved with other fund-raising in the community, including for the Nowra Police Boys' Club and the Cambewarra Pony Club.

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Congratulations to Kevin, Catherine and the team on 25 years of business

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