

Graham Douglas

Having completed General Nursing at the Western General Hospital in August 1977, I joined Ambulance Service-Melbourne as a 1C "Bionic" early the following year. I graduated after spending the obligatory time at HQ in LaTrobe St and at City Branch. Most of my shifts were spent at Altona, Sunshine & Footscray branches and at MICA 3 from 1982 until I went into Rosters in LaTrobe St. I resigned for reasons of the heart in late 1989.

I moved to Sydney and back into nursing in the O.R Anaesthetics & Recovery for 12 month, this was long enough.

Donna and I married in August 1991 raising two boys, one of whom is in the W.A Police, our eldest is a free spirit to date.

I worked in real estate for 18 months until Medtronic realised they wanted me to sell and assist in the implantation of pacemakers and defibrillators. From there I worked in Medical Sales and Marketing for the remainder of my working life.

In my career started the Cardiology Division in Australia for the world's largest privately owned medical company, and was the "clinical interface" for a technology company developing the first electronic medication management systems for the aged care industry.

I had an unproductive year nursing the "black dog". I went back to working where I taught aged care staff to use client management software until a diagnosis of multiple myeloma in 2017 ended my working life. I'm fortunate in that it's been dormant since my stem cell transplant in 2018.

We moved back to Victoria that year and we are both enjoying the regional lifestyle.

Since taking on the role of RAAV Membership Officer I have been able to reconnect with guys I hadn't seen for 30 odd years, once an ambo always an ambo, it doesn't leave you when you leave the job. Just ask Donna next time you see her!!

With my technology background I'd like the organisation to be more technology savvy and to use it to make administrative processes more efficient for the benefit of the membership.

To bring all Ambulance employees into the organisation is a goal of mine, it's not a group just for old men, there are local Men's Sheds if people want that.

I look forward to meeting more of you younger people in the not too distant future.
Cheers!!

