

Noted former Nelson businessman and sportsman Tom Newman dies

OBITUARY

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Tom Newman

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Noted former Nelson businessman and sportsman Tom Newman has died aged 81.

A former Nelson cricket representative, Newman also had a lengthy involvement as an accountant, initially with Griffen Hodgson (now Crowe Horwath) and then with Transport Nelson and Newman Brothers - the dominant firm in both the top of the South Island and lower North Island for transporting passengers and mail.

Newman attended Nelson College from 1949 to 1953 and played for the First X1 cricket team in his final year.

As befitting the nephew of former New Zealand cricketer Sir Jack Newman and Stan Newman, and a son of Alec Newman, Tom played cricket for Nelson from 1953-1966 during the first of Nelson's heralded Hawke Cup eras involving 28 successful defences.

A medium-fast bowler and handy lower order batsman, Newman took 28 wickets for Nelson and was noted for his economy.

The Newman Shield, which bears the family name, was first presented in 1922 by Tom's grandfather, also Tom Newman, for competition initially between eight representative teams but which today is contested annually between Nelson and Marlborough.

During his time in Nelson, he also played rugby for Nelson College Old Boys and played 18 games for the Nelson representative side as a centre or fullback between 1955 and 1962.

His increasing business interests and growing family of four children forced his early retirement from representative cricket in 1966 although he continued to play club cricket.

Newman moved to Wellington in 1969 to establish Newmans Travel, where he also played for the Tawa Cricket Club.

He headed north to Auckland in 1972 to establish Newmans Travel's head office and played cricket for the North Shore club for two seasons, achieving figures of 7 for 41 in his first game.

Injury curtailed his premier appearances for North Shore although he continued to play Presidents grade for many years.

Newman was appointed to the TNL board in 1972 when Transport Nelson, Newman Brothers and Kirbys Carriers merged to become the largest transport firm in New Zealand. He retained that position until 1985 when he retired before acquiring kiwifruit farms in Te Puke which he managed and worked.

He is survived by his wife Jennifer, daughter Christina and sons Alex, Campbell and Stephen.

Obituary

Thomas George Newman: b October 14, 1935; d September 12, 2016, Te Puke, aged 81.

- Stuff