

Vale Dawn Walsh



Dawn Walsh, Macquarie Conservatorium's singing teacher and former professional singer with Opera Australia, passed away on Friday 1 June 2018 at Lourdes Private Hospital, Dubbo.

Dawn Walsh had a distinguished career as an operatic soprano. She commenced her vocal studies at the age of 16, studying voice with Maxwell Speed and Megan Evans in Sydney. Dawn also spent several years studying singing technique in Trier, Germany, with leading American baritone, Michael Rhodes.

In 1968, she joined the Australian Opera, now Opera Australia. After almost 40 years with Opera Australia, during which time she covered major roles including Norma for Dame Joan Sutherland and Madame Butterfly for Leona Mitchell, Dawn retired from the national company in August 2005.

Dawn then took up a position as singing teacher at Macquarie Conservatorium of Music Dubbo. During her time as a valued staff member of Macquarie Conservatorium, Dawn taught many students from across Dubbo and the surrounding region, both youth and adults. Dawn generously shared with her students her exemplary singing technique and her vast professional experience.

Dawn was a treasured member of the teaching staff of Macquarie Conservatorium. Dubbo was very fortunate that she chose to come here on her retirement from the professional operatic stage to take up teaching. To have an artist of her calibre teaching here was an amazing opportunity that opened up the world of professional singing to her students.

Her Conservatorium teaching colleagues, her students, past and present, and their families - we will all miss Dawn so very much.

A private family funeral was held in Cowra on Thursday 7 June.

A Memorial Service for Dawn Walsh will be held on Wednesday 13 June 2.30pm at Dubbo Presbyterian Church, corner of Douglas Mawson Drive and Sheraton Road.

Photo: Dawn Walsh with her Certificate of 10 years Service as a teacher at Macquarie Conservatorium, presented in 2015.