



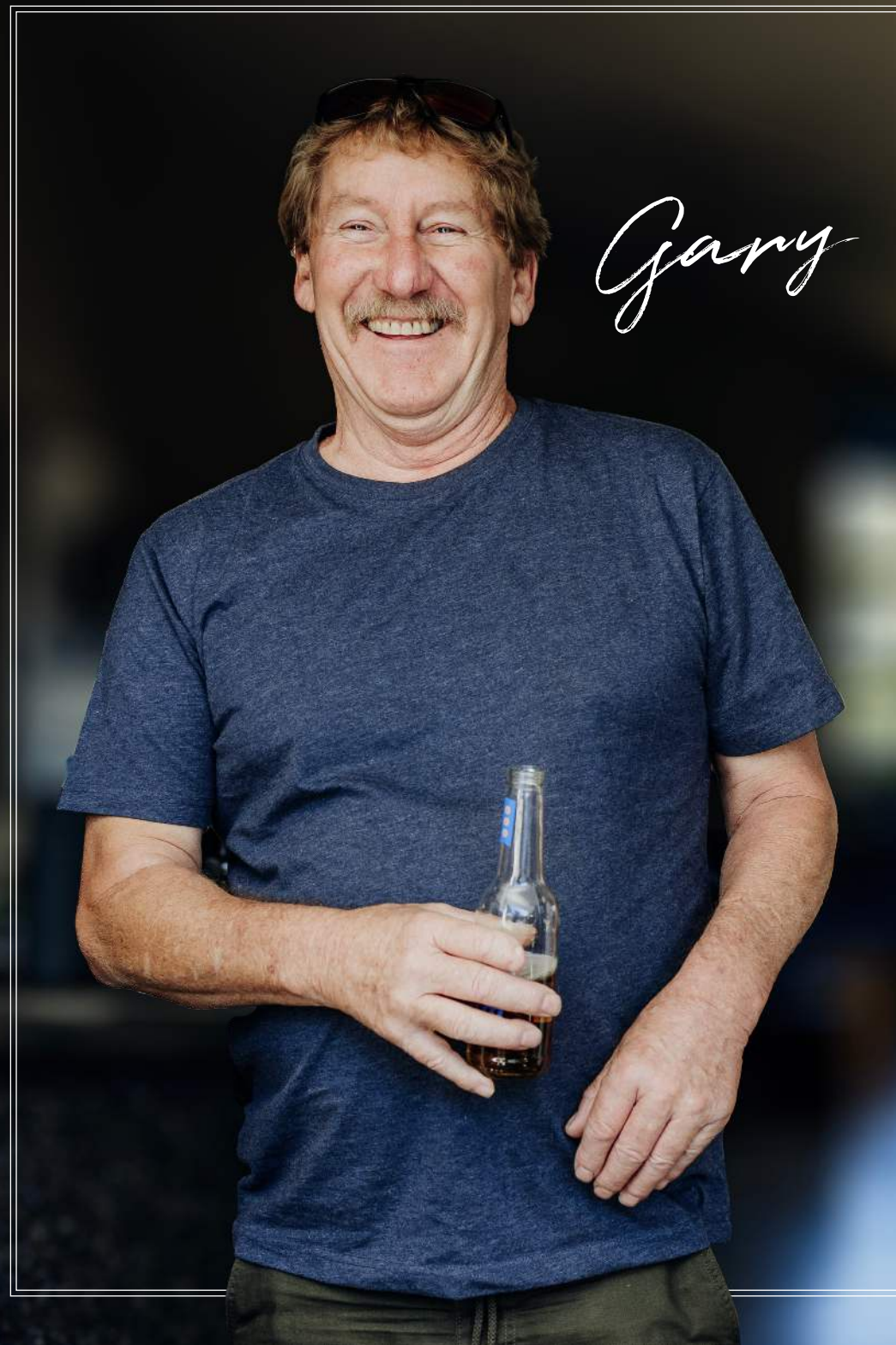
An Invitation

Gary's family wish to thank you for being here today and for all your love and support at this time.

If you have not already done so, would you please take the time to leave your name or a message for the family in the Memorial Book located in the foyer.

Following this service, you are warmly invited to join the family for refreshments in the Cornwall Manor Lounge, where you can share more memories of Gary. After this time Gary will take his final journey to Akatārawa Crematorium for a family farewell.

GEE & HICKTON
FUNERAL DIRECTORS



WITH LOVE WE REMEMBER

Gary Charles Stokes

19 APRIL 1961 - 17 OCTOBER 2026

Cornwall Manor, Lower Hutt
Wednesday, 21 October 2026 at 10.30am

Officiating: *Paul Jackson*

Order of Service

Commencing

Hotel California - Eagles

Welcome & Introduction

Gary's Life Story

Memories & Tributes

Photo Memories

Eye Of The Tiger - Survivor
If You Don't Know Me By Now - Simply Red

Closing Reflection

Poem

The Dash

Committal

Farewell

Take It Easy - Eagles

The Dash

When we stand to speak at the funerals of our friends
We note first the birth and speak of the deaths with tears.
But what matters most is the dash between those years.

For the dash represents all the time they spent on this earth,
And those who loved and knew them know just what that little line is worth.

For it matters not how much we own – the cars, the house, the cash.
What matters most is how we live and love and how we spend our dash.

Reflect on how they filled their lives with positive action and friends.
Consider your position - at mid-Dash, is it time to review the trend.

If we could just slow down enough to consider what's true and real,
And always try to understand the way that others feel.

Be less quick to anger and show appreciation more,
And love the people in our lives like we have never loved before.

Could we treat each other with respect and more often wear a smile,
Remembering that our little dash may only last a while?

If we could – and they would say we can.
For them, could we be a better woman or a better man?