



VICTORIAN BAR

OBITUARY

HARTOG CAREL BERKELEY QC

BAR ROLL NO: 601

It is with deep regret that the Bar Council informs members of the death this morning of Hartog Berkeley QC. Hartog was 88 (born 14 August 1928).

Born in London, and schooled at Eltham College in Kent, he began an Arts and Economics course at the University of London. This was interrupted by the family migrating to Australia in 1947. He was, for some years, a sheep rouseabout; then he and his brother began an interstate trucking business. From trucks to concrete to clothing – then the Law. He read with Tom Hughes and was admitted to the NSW Bar in October 1958.

Hartog came to Melbourne and was admitted in Victoria in June 1959. He immediately came to the Bar and read here with Bill Harris (later Bar Chairman and a Supreme Court Judge). He established a large commercial practice, specialising in Taxation. He taught Commercial Law at the Monash Law School. He had four Readers and took Silk in 1972.

He served on numerous Bar Committees, including as Chairman of the Ethics Committee; Chairman of the Accommodation Committee, the Equality Before the Law Committee, the Bar Centenary Committee, and of the Essoign – of which he was a Life Member. He was a Director of Barristers' Chambers Limited. He was Vice-Chairman of the Bar Council for more than 2 years, and Chairman for 2 years (1979-81) – concurrently, President of the Australian Bar Association.

He was Solicitor-General for Victoria for ten years (1982-92), returning then to practise at the Bar until his retirement at the end of June 2005. He is said to have been as proud of the title Poll Hereford "studmaster" as that of QC.

He was a generous man and colourful character, devoted to the Independent Bar and the men and women of the Bar. In 1998, he instigated (with Jopling QC and Graeme Thompson) the Bar Legends and was named one in 2003. He played major roles in the gifts to the Bar of the Silks' Tapestry (1985) and the Silks' Sculpture (2003).

It was Hartog's wish that there not be a Funeral.

Jennifer Batrouney QC

President

17 February 2017