

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF
Geoffrey Alan Ernst



Geoff's family thank you for your love, support and attendance here today, and warmly invite you to join them for light refreshments after the service.



Collingwood
FUNERAL HOME

Geoff

17TH JULY 1943 - 27TH AUGUST 2023

Don't be sad that I have gone, just be glad that I have been.



Welcome to this Memorial Service to Celebrate the Life of

Geoff

Held at The Tirau Museum, Tirau at 1pm.

SATURDAY **2** SEPTEMBER
2023

Celebrant: Graeme Thomson – family friend



New Zealand's Bush

New Zealand's bush so grand and rare,
There is nothing to beat it anywhere;
The pohutukawa with its glorious red,
Sends a radiance down on the river bed.
The river flows on from tree to tree,
Its depth not known by you nor me,
As it winds its way to the deep blue sea.

As up the bank of the river I go,
I see the high mountains white capped with snow;
And the great birch trees so tall and straight,
Like sentinels guarding our forest gate.

I enter the forest with its cool fresh breeze,
I hear the song of the birds high up in the trees;
The tui warbles his song from his white tufted throat,
His wing is as black as the parson's coat.
The supple jack climbs from tree to tree,
And I hear the drone of the busy bee.

The beautiful clematis so soft and white,
Gently swaying in the shaded light,
Like the wing of an angel guarding the trees and flowers,
In this lovely native bush of ours.
The huge tree ferns are there to be seen,
Growing in a carpet of moss thick and green.

The woodhen is pecking and scratching about,
On the bank of the river - the home of the trout.
Oh why do we travel to lands far away,
When such grandeur is here to be seen any day;
New Zealand's bush so grand and rare,
There's nothing to beat it anywhere.

Composed by Olivia McKenzie.

