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A life amongst change

Revered Red Cross stalwart will leave lasting legacy

Obituary
Helen Jessie Martin (nee Laing)

HELEN Jessie Martin (nee Laing) saw many changes during her 94-year life and lived through two world wars and several other overseas military campaigns perhaps influencing her in becoming an active member of the Red Cross Society.

On January 11 at St John of God Hospital she breathed her last breath closing a wonderful chapter in her family's history.

She was born in Sydney and educated at home and at the Convent of the Sacred Heart School Rose Bay, now known as Kincoppal, Rose Bay.

She found employment as a karitane nurse and as a housewife.

Besides spending 69 of her 94 years in Goulburn she lived for a time in Sydney, Cowra and western NSW on properties managed by her father.

After World War Two her husband received a soldier's settler's block and they both worked hard to build a home for the family.

Today this property is a tribute to their hard work in their early years.

During her life she witnessed many amazing advances in technology and transport including the disappearance of



• **LOVING:** The late Helen Jessie Martin will be remembered as a loving mother, grandmother and great grandmother.

horse drawn vehicles as a major form of transport and the development of the motor car.

She witnessed the improvements in radio communication and the invention of television and the change from black and white to colour and to satellite digital.

She saw the telephone invade virtually every home and the mobile phone come into vogue. She saw the invention of the pocket calculator and the personal

computer. She listened to music played on 78rpm gramophones and later on stereo systems with diamond styluses needles.

She witnessed these inventions fade away replaced by cassette players, and CD players.

She managed to cope with these changes by believing that you have to make the best of things and get on with life.

Helen Martin leaves behind a daughter Margaret Snape, son Stuart Martin and two daughters in law Laila and Laurel as well as four grandchildren Thomas, Jyri, Reilly and James and two great grandchildren Nicholas and Hannah.

She was predeceased by her husband George and son Robert.

Helen Martin will be remembered as a loving mother, grandmother and great grandmother also for her work with the Red Cross Society for which she held the position of librarian at St John of God and broadcast messages for the Red Cross on 2GN.

She held the position of Red Cross zone representative and helped in the Red Cross shop. She was also active in the Goulburn Garden Club and was its patron for 19 years.

She was also a member of Probus.

Helen Jessie Martin's (nee Laing) funeral service was conducted by Father Tony Percy at Our Lady of Fatima Church North Goulburn on January 18 followed by interment in the Goulburn Lawn Cemetery.

Rest in peace o' good and faithful servant.