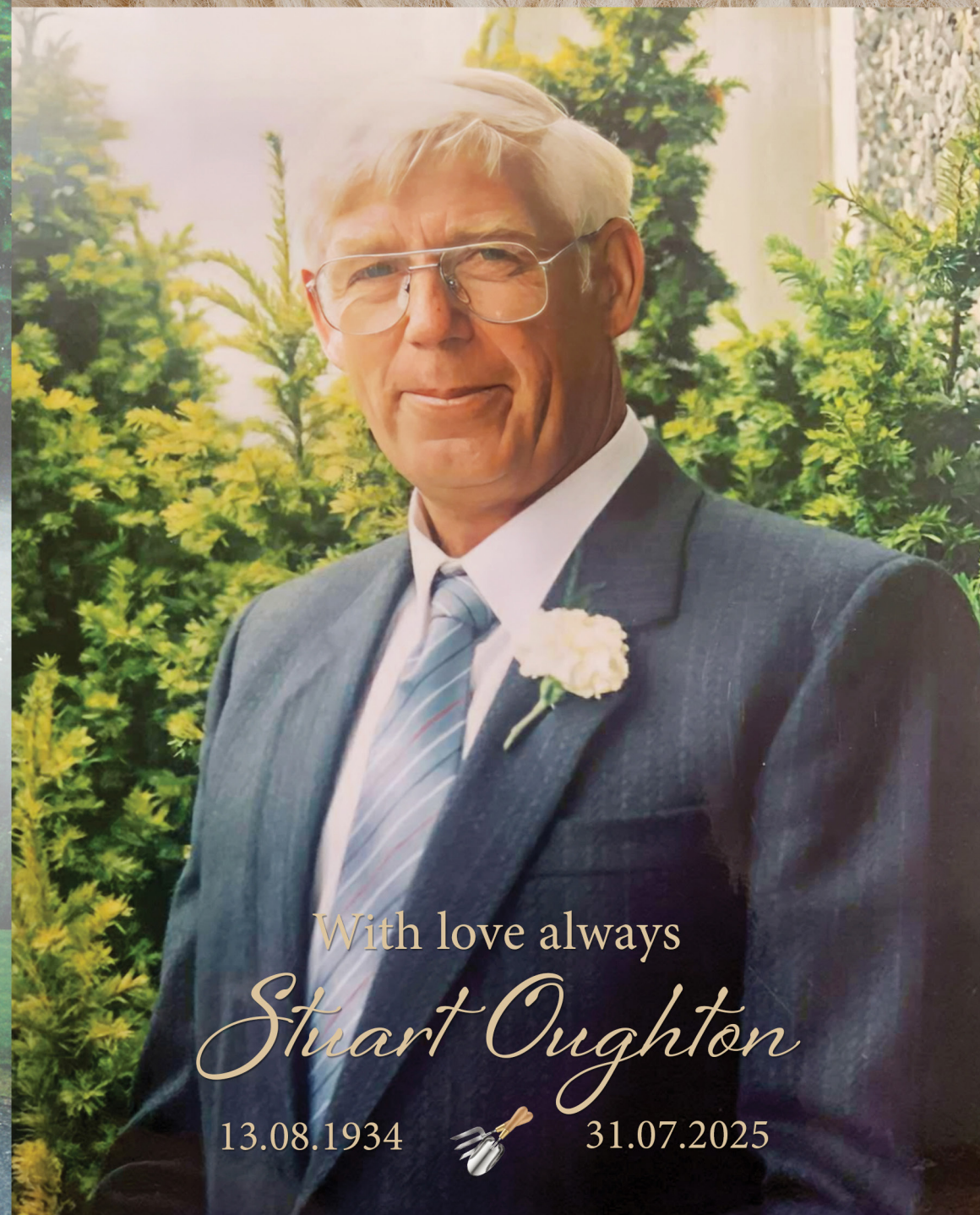


*What you planted in love, we carry forward,  
growing still in all we do.*



*We sincerely thank you for your kindness, support, and  
presence during this time.*

*Following the service, you're warmly invited to join us for  
some light refreshments and raise a glass as we share  
more stories and memories of our beloved Stuart.*



*With love always*

*Stuart Oughton*

13.08.1934



31.07.2025





## Stuart's Story

### Humble Beginnings

Born in 1934, Stuart was the youngest of five. He lost his father at age nine and was raised by a strong and practical mother. He showed early signs of quiet determination and kindness, earning praise at school for his reliability and thoughtfulness. Though not especially musical, Stuart's natural character and work ethic were already evident in those early years and would shape the man he became.



### A Calling to the land

Though raised in town, Stuart's heart was always drawn to the country. He left school at sixteen to work on a farm in Bayswater and quickly became part of the rural Southland community. He played rugby, attended local dances, and met Margaret, the woman who would become his partner in life and farming. Those early years sowed the seeds of a deep love for farming, family, and community.



### Family Life and Farming Years

Stuart and Margaret married in 1961 and raised three boys in Bayswater before buying their own farm in Waikouro. Life was busy, filled with long days, animals, and kids learning the ropes. Stuart led by example, teaching his sons hard work, independence, and humour. Possum trapping, sheep work, and gardening were everyday adventures. The family worked hard, played hard, and took great pride in building a life together.

### Humour and Heart

Stuart had a sharp sense of humour and a love for practical jokes. Whether it was balancing a pedal car on the chimney or helping plan mischief with neighbours, laughter followed him. He was famous for his yarns, his ukulele playing after a few whiskeys, and the way he brought joy to everyday moments. His warmth and wit created lasting memories for everyone lucky enough to know him.



### A Pillar in the Community

Deeply involved in his community, Stuart served as a councillor, Jaycee, rugby club member, and Mason. He was a skilled debater, generous volunteer, and proud supporter of local causes. He earned recognition and respect for his contributions, not just because of what he did, but for the way he did it—with humility, humour, and heart. His dedication left a lasting mark across Southland.



### A Legacy of Love and Generosity

Stuart's later years were filled with crosswords, gardens, family visits, and treasured memories. He and Margaret shared a long, joyful marriage and were a strong, loving team. Even in passing, Stuart gave one final gift by donating his body to medical science. He leaves behind a family full of love, laughter, and gratitude. His legacy lives on in every story, every smile, and every person he inspired.

