



CASA FIN

Giuseppe's memories of his journey to Australia in 1956.

“On Saturday the 13th of October, at about 7.00 am, I left my family, including parents Alessandro and Anna-Maria and my brothers and sisters, Nella, Sandrin, Emilia, Momi, Teresina, Toni, and Luigi to take the long journey to Australia.”



“I left Runzi, taking 2 buses which were full of friends from Runzi and Bagnolo di Po. They were going to Trento for the unveiling of the monument dedicated to the famous former Prime Minister of Italy, Alcide De Gasperi.”



“I stopped at Verona station and with my brother in law, Orazio Duzzi, proceeded to Genova. We stayed there until Monday, 15th of October. On that day, the boat "Oceania" of Lloyd Triestino, left the port of Genova. It departed at 7.45 pm.



32 days later, on Thursday the 15th of November, at 6.45 am, I arrived in Sydney, at Piermont Wharf No.13, where my sister, Maria, brother in law, Lino Defant and my nieces - Sandra, aged and Sonia, aged 3 - were waiting for my arrival. “



Giuseppe married Patricia Nicoll in 1958 and together they raised eight children. The photo on the right was taken in 1961. By this time, Lino and Maria Defant were Godparents to oldest

daughters, Rita and Loreta and years later, Sandra and Sonia were to become Godmothers to Daniela and Sandro.



Recognised as one of the most prominent leaders of the Italian Community, Giuseppe has been awarded both the Order of Australia Medal and the Commendatore”, (a Knighthood from the Italian Government) for his many years of voluntary service and dedication to significant charitable and cultural works, including 10 years as President of COASIT. His contribution to the promotion of the teaching of the Italian language and culture has

influenced the thinking and attitudes of hundreds of thousands of Australian families across the state of NSW.