

Newcastle's idiosyncratic educator

NH 11.11.91

OBITUARY

A FORMER educator, Mr Charlie Goffet, died on Saturday night while delivering a speech to former students at a class reunion.

Mr Goffet, 82, of Barker St, Newcastle, was the guest speaker at a Newcastle Boys High School 1961 class reunion dinner.

During his speech at Newcastle Tattersall's Club Mr Goffet stepped back from the podium as if to emphasise a point he was making but fell backwards.



Mr Goffet

Two doctors in the audience tried to revive him but said he died before hitting the floor.

A daughter, Ms Natalie Goffet, said her father suffered a massive heart attack.

A memorial service will be held in the same auditorium at

12.30pm tomorrow. A private cremation will be held.

Mr Goffet was born in 1909, grew up in Wickham and was educated at Wickham Public School and Newcastle High School.

His first teaching job was at North Sydney Boys High School in 1929 and he returned to Newcastle in 1942 as French teacher at Newcastle Boys High, where he remained until his retirement in 1978.

His former students recall him as an inspired teacher with an idiosyncratic classroom manner who never set homework yet got masses of it to mark each day.

He is survived by his daughters Jeannette (McHugh), Julie (Sutton) and Natalie. His wife, Neta Jean, died in 1983.