

Sir John Anthony Anderson, KBE (1945 – 2018)

Sir John was born in Wellington on 2 August 1945 and died on 13 November 2018 aged 73. One of NZ's preeminent businessmen; he was sought out for his innovative and inspirational leadership and in his later years, by ailing companies as a problem solver, as well as to sit on numerous Boards, Foundations and governing bodies.

John was the youngest of three children born in Karori, Wellington, his two other siblings being two sisters. He attended Karori Normal and Wellesley College (1956-1957), before heading to Christ's College for secondary school. In 1962 he joined the accountancy firm Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu whilst studying accountancy part-time at Victoria University until 1969 when he ventured to Melbourne, Australia to Guest & Bell share brokers. Lured back as integral to the fledgling South Pacific Merchant Finance in 1972, he became Chief Executive and Director in 1979, staying until 1988, when Southpac merged with the National Bank. Subsequently, in 1989 Sir John became its Chief Executive till 2003 and then was Chief Executive of the ANZ from 2003 -2005. He held numerous prestigious directorships, many as Chair and was appointed Commissioner of District Health Boards.

He was knighted in 1994, became a laureate of Fairfax Media NZ Business Hall of Fame, plus was the inaugural winner of the Blake Medal for Outstanding Leadership. He was named NBR New Zealander of the Year, Deloitte's most visionary leader and received the Halberg Award for leadership in excellence in sport.

However, it wasn't only business that sought Sir John's wise counsel but sport, particularly cricket where he reached legendary status as wise counsel, being instrumental in the ANZ's long and successful association with NZ cricket. He was a handy club cricketer, but it was his stewardship as Chair of NZ Cricket and as Director of the ICC that his influence was felt, with several strategic changes occurring to the game nationally and internationally under his watch.

Sir John is survived by his wife Lady Carol, their two sons David and Robbie and their children and his two sisters.

