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FM 97.7

Monday 10—11am

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In memory of The Reverend Cornelis Uidam

Knight of the Order of Orange Nassau
(The Netherlands)

Cor (as he was known to all who knew him well) had been a member of the Board of the DACC Ltd. for many years. He held at various times almost all offices and his contribution to the Centre has been invaluable. Although never officially appointed as treasurer, nevertheless his influence on that office was great. Thanks to him savings were made where others thought it would be impossible.

His always was the voice of moderation and he was a great master in keeping things on an even keel and keeping the peace. This may have been due to the fact that Cor started his career as a policeman and later followed his calling to become a minister in the Uniting Church. He was sorely missed after he stepped down from the Board, although he was always there to give advice and help out where possible.

Cornelis Uidam was ordained as a minister into the Dutch Reformed Church in 1952. In 1960 he came to Australia, to Sydney, to become a shepherd to Dutch immigrants from the Netherlands and guide them spiritually through difficult periods. Since these immigrants lived all over the place, from Canberra, to the Blue Mountains, Newcastle, Wollongong and of course Sydney, it meant a great deal of travelling and acquiring a multitude of skills. Sometimes the spiritual had to come second to practical needs. Cor retired from his work in 1989, but continued to be available for relief ministries when necessary.

In 1991 he was asked to establish the Archives of the Uniting Church Assembly and the DACC profited greatly from the knowledge he acquired and shared generously. In between all this, Cor completed a Master of Arts (with honours) in Modern History at Macquarie University, where he graduated in 1981.

His was a full and fruitful life. He will be missed by many.

Cornelis Uidam, died peacefully at home, after a long illness, on August 10 of this year.