

Michael Chamberlain, a Salute.

Michael Chamberlain died in Gosford Hospital on January 9th 2012.

The family asked John Bryson to deliver a short tribute at the Service at the Avondale College Church.

Michael, and I'll address you personally, just as we have engaged with each other in the past, but now to prolong your presence with us, as we pay our tributes to you.

Our lives are fleeting, so we know our deaths are inevitable, and the real reason we grieve is because we all regret the loss of events together which are no longer possible. Inevitable, but I always cry.

Yet we have, even in the secular world, a mechanism to which we are all heir, this applies while we are living and afterwards, which is this: *One's being persists in one's consequences.* Of your biological consequences, we watch your children, Michael, who carry you with them, as will their children, so on and on.

But look, how broad are your consequences. As an educator, your life has brushed with many. They now carry you with them. As an activist against injustice, your reach is immense. All of us touched by the fraudulent charge on which you were once convicted, and Lindy was gaoled, carry you with us, as do our children. Through the one legal case in our nation's history in which every eye-witness was a defence supporter, your supporter, every one of them, including hundreds of searchers whom you thanked after the searching for your lost babe had failed, carry you with them, as will their children.

Your consequences, which carry on your being now, are vast, Michael.

Salute.

16 January 2017.