

LOVE & SERVICE-some insights!

Doctor Elisabeth Kubler-Ross (1926-2004) was a Swedish born American psychiatrist. Her specialty was in working with people who were approaching their physical death and also with people who were suffering the consequences of people dying. It would not have been easy work!

Over her long professional career this remarkable lady interviewed hundreds of people and recorded their near-death experiences. Consistently these people reported that as death came near to them they replayed 2 significant events. These events were the measure of service they had given out to others and the depth of love that they had given and received in their life from others. Dr. Kubler-Ross interestingly reported that her clients/patients rarely reported towards the end of their life any of their worldly fame, status and power as being significant.

Recently a legendary Australian footballer died (Bob Fulton) and his extraordinary playing skills were naturally well documented. But what I found most significant was what this man's daughter said of him in these words; *"my father was more a champion husband to my mother, a parent to his children and a loving devoted grandparent to his grandchildren. He was also consistently patient and giving to the many strangers who came to him."*

Jesus of Nazareth also had something to say about the importance of love and service in these words; *"if anyone wants to be great then they must make themselves the servant of all."* (Matthew Chapter 10, verse 43). *Fr Martin R Maunsell*