Delores Caboche came to Australia on the day Australia changed to digital currency (14.2.1966), that is how she always described her entry to Australia.

Delores was born in Canada and came to New Zealand on an exchange program, in her words it took two men from New Zealand to go to Canada for the job she as one person did! After a year in New Zealand, Delores transferred to Sydney, not sure about this but I think it was with Price Waterhouse. After less than a year in Sydney Delores moved to Perth and stayed here.

After Price Waterhouse, Delores worked for the Bond Corporation and was the accountant for the Dal Holding company until she retired.

Delores was one of the first women to become a Chartered Accountant in Canada and as she explained always worked in a ‘man’s world’.

She was delighted to become a Soroptimist at the age of 25 in Saskatoon, Canada, as it gave her the opportunity to meet other women. When in New Zealand she transferred to a club there, the same when she went to Sydney and joined S I Perth Inc when she came to Perth and remained a valued member of our Club to the end.

Being a Soroptimist meant a great deal to Delores and she was so proud to receive her 60 years’ service medal on 19 March 2022, at our WA Region meeting. Delores always was an active participant in discussions at the Club, often using her wit to conclude a discussion on a positive note. She was a Life Member of our Club and also of the Region of Western Australia. Delores was the regular bell ringer at all Region meetings and did that with aplomb!

The many messages the club has received after her death have referred to her wit and wisdom and there is no doubt she had an abundance of wit and wisdom. Many Soroptimists (internationally) will remember Delores as the MC for the 2003 S I Convention in Sydney. Each morning she started the day with a story, told it calmly but there was humour at the end making the day a joyful one for all.

Delores was Federation President from 1984 to 1986, during this time she travelled to many of the Pacific countries and around Australia and New Zealand. Delores represented S I when she joined the team to attend the UN 3rd World Women’s Conference in Nairobi.

Delores was instrumental in assisting Stella Giles as she chartered 9 clubs in WA. Stella was extension Officer for WA for 10 years and during that time Delores was her driver, taking her far and wide and joining her to promote S I to prospective members.

Delores took on the position of International Treasurer for a year when one of our members had to resign. Many wanted to nominate her for International President in the late 80s, unfortunately because of work commitments she had to decline.

Although never promoting herself, Delores supported and nominated many WA Presidents and Federation Presidents, she had the ability to recognise potential in members and would do all to mentor and support them. Always supported the President in office no matter what the circumstances.

Unknown to many of us Delores was a member of the B-Attitudes Inc Board ( a small organisation that supports young people recovering from drug addiction) and they have sent a tribute which appears below.

As a valued and loved member of S I Perth, Delores will be missed, but has left us with many happy memories.

Vale Delores!

Margaret Lobo AM