

= Ian Craig =

Ian David Craig , OAM (12 June 1935 ? 16 November 2014) was an Australian cricketer who represented the Australian national team in 11 Tests between 1953 and 1958 . A right @-@ handed batsman , Craig holds the records for being the youngest Australian to make a first @-@ class double century , appear in a Test match , and captain his country in a Test match . Burdened by the public expectation of being the " next Bradman " , Craig 's career did not fulfil its early promise . In 1957 , he was appointed Australian captain , leading a young team as part of a regeneration plan following the decline of the national team in the mid @-@ 1950s , but a loss of form and illness forced him out of the team after one season . Craig made a comeback , but work commitments forced him to retire from first @-@ class cricket at only 26 years of age .

A teenage prodigy , Craig made his first @-@ class debut for New South Wales in the last match of the 1951 ? 52 Australian season , aged only 16 . The following summer , Craig earned comparisons to Don Bradman , generally regarded as the greatest batsman of all time , after becoming the youngest player to score a first @-@ class double century , an unbeaten 213 against the touring South African team . The innings secured Craig 's Test debut in the final match against South Africa , making him the youngest player to represent Australia in a Test , aged 17 years and 239 days . Craig started his Test career well , scoring 53 and 47 to ensure his selection for the 1953 Ashes tour , making him the youngest Australian player to tour England . Craig 's arrival precipitated media comparisons to the arrival and success of Bradman in 1930 , but he performed poorly and was not selected for any of the Tests .

Having missed a season due to national service and university studies , Craig returned to first @-@ class cricket in 1955 ? 56 , earning a place in the 1956 Ashes touring squad . Craig regained a Test position for the final two Tests of the series . After the series , at which point Australia had suffered three consecutive Ashes series defeats , captain Ian Johnson and vice @-@ captain Keith Miller retired . The selectors focussed on young players to rebuild the team , appointing Craig as the captain for the 1957 ? 58 tour of South Africa , although he had played just six Tests and was not an established member of the team . Aged 22 years and 194 days , Craig was , at the time , the youngest captain in Test history and led a team that critics dismissed as having no chance to a convincing 3 ? 0 victory ; his own batting form was poor , and he averaged less than 20 . He contracted hepatitis before the start of the 1958 ? 59 season and withdrew from cricket . Although he returned the following season for New South Wales , he could not regain his Test place . He retired from first @-@ class cricket at the age of just 26 : work commitments as a pharmacist increasingly restricted his ability to train . In later life , Craig was the managing director of the Australian subsidiary of the British pharmaceutical firm Boots . He had a continued involvement with cricket as an administrator , working with the New South Wales Cricket Association , the Sydney Cricket Ground Trust and the Bradman Museum . Craig was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia in 1997 for his service to cricket .

= = Early life = =

= = = Birth and school success = = =

Ian Craig was the first son of John Craig and his wife Katherine (née Dun) . Shortly after Ian 's birth in the rural town of Yass , John jokingly told friends that " Australia 's second Don Bradman has just been born . " When John 's employers , the Bank of New South Wales , moved him to Sydney , the family relocated when Ian was just three ; John went on to be the chief manager of the Sydney office . Ian studied at North Sydney Boys High School , and showed an aptitude for ball games from an early age . He was a member of Australia 's schoolboy baseball team for three years , first playing at 13 years of age . He captained his school 's rugby union team and was a member of the state 's schoolboy team , but was only vice captain of the First XI cricket team behind Peter Philpott , another future Test player . At the time , cricket was only his third priority ; his obituary in the Sydney

Morning Herald suggests that he was initially a better rugby player but was persuaded to focus on cricket when he broke his jaw playing rugby . He joined Mosman Cricket Club on Sydney 's North Shore and scored a first @-@ grade century at the age of 16 . Craig was not coached heavily ; the philosophy of the day was to supervise young players and to only intervene if mistakes were being made .

After good performances for Mosman , Craig was selected to make his first @-@ class debut for New South Wales at the age of 16 years and 249 days , during the 1951 ? 52 season , making him the youngest ever Sheffield Shield player . He struck 91 against South Australia in his only first @-@ class innings of the season , before falling leg before wicket . He remained in the team for the following season ; in the first eight games he scored 350 runs at an average of 35 @.@ 00 , with three fifties . Given a chance to push his claims for Test selection after being selected for the Australian XI to play South Africa , he made only 38 and 11 .

= = = The " Next Bradman " = = =

Craig 's breakthrough came in January 1953 when , at the age of 17 years and 207 days , he became the youngest double centurion in the history of first @-@ class cricket at the time , in only his 13th first @-@ class innings . As of 2015 , he remains the youngest Australian to have achieved the feat . In a match for New South Wales against the touring South Africans , Craig came into bat on the second day and after a slow start reached 105 not out at the close of play . After play , he went to work at his job as an apprentice pharmacist . The next day , teammate Sid Barnes offered him a new bat if he reached 200 . When play resumed , he took his score to 213 not out , helping to build a total of 416 runs for the loss of seven wickets (7 / 416) . Hitting many cover drives , Craig scored quickly , making 98 of the 159 runs scored in a partnership with Keith Miller , a Test player known for his attacking strokeplay . Craig brought up his double century by sweeping Hugh Tayfield for a boundary .

The innings generated comparisons with Don Bradman , widely regarded as the finest batsman in cricket history . Bradman had dominated Australian sports media coverage for two decades until his retirement in 1948 and the Australian public were eager for another sporting hero of his magnitude . Bradman had not played first @-@ class cricket at the age of 17 and was 20 when he made his Test debut , so Craig 's quicker rise up the ranks caused much excitement . The Daily Telegraph said that Craig batted with " a grim purposefulness " that was " reminiscent of Bradman . " Miller cautioned against heaping so much media pressure on Craig , but the newspapers persisted , even comparing Craig 's batting grip to that of Bradman .

Craig 's innings also caught the eye of Australian selectors and he was selected for the Test team . He was named twelfth man for the Fourth Test , before making his debut in the Fifth Test after Miller and Ray Lindwall were rested due to mild injuries . Australia were leading the series 2 ? 1 heading into the deciding match .

= = Test match career = =

= = = Debut = = =

Making his Test debut at the Melbourne Cricket Ground , Craig became , at the age of 17 years and 239 days , the youngest ever Australian to play Test cricket . Australia batted first and Craig received a standing ovation from the 47 @,@ 000 @-@ strong crowd as he walked out to bat amid high expectations from the public . As South African captain Jack Cheetham stopped proceedings to set his field , the crowd jeered . Australia were comfortably positioned at 3 / 269 with Craig 's partner Neil Harvey on his way to a double century . Craig cover drove his third ball , bowled by Percy Mansell , for four and quickly moved to 20 . In an innings marked by leg glances and fine cuts , Craig progressed to 53 before the new ball was taken . He hit a ball into the covers and was caught , ending the 148 @-@ run partnership with Harvey and silencing the crowd . Australia collapsed and

ended at 520 but still took a first innings lead of 85 runs . Craig top @-@ scored in the second innings with 47 , giving him exactly 100 runs for the match as Australia collapsed to be all out for 209 and conceded defeat by six wickets . Given Bradman 's Test average of 99 @.@ 94 , Craig 's match aggregate prompted further press discussions of Bradmanesque similarities . However , his debut ended on a sour note as South Africa scored 4 / 297 to win by six wickets and level the series 2 ? 2 .

= = = Ashes tour of 1953 = = =

Craig was selected for his first tour of England in 1953 as the last player to make the cut , after only 10 first @-@ class matches . The youngest Australian player ever to be sent to England , Craig was 15 months younger than Clem Hill in 1896 . He had been one of the leading batsmen of the summer , scoring 867 first @-@ class runs at a batting average of 54 @.@ 18 with seven half @-@ centuries in addition to his double century . This placed him fourth among Australian batsmen for the season in terms of run @-@ scoring , with only leading Test batsman Neil Harvey averaging higher . Craig had a strong preparation before departing for England , scoring fifties in three consecutive matches for the Australians on home soil .

Craig was again the centre of media speculation , with some media likening his arrival to Bradman 's first tour of England in 1930 . Bradman had scored a world Test series record of 974 runs in 1930 , a mark that remains unsurpassed . At a reception at the start of the tour , British judge and cricket enthusiast Lord Birkett said " If I know the English as I think I do , every Mother in the land will pray for him . " During the tour he was presented with a birthday cake on television . However , the trip was unsuccessful in terms of batting .

Craig began poorly ; in ten innings before the Tests started , he scored only 146 runs at 14 @.@ 60 without passing fifty . He was overlooked for the First Test , and continued to struggle for runs during the tour ; he ended with 429 runs in 27 innings with a top score of 71 not out and an average of 16 @.@ 50 . He was not selected for any Tests . Craig had difficulty adjusting to the English pitch conditions and his confidence plummeted . Craig had particular trouble against off cutters on the seaming pitches . In a reception at Lord 's , the home of cricket , Queen Elizabeth II asked him " I understand this is your first visit to England ? " , which prompted Craig to reply " Yes , your majesty , and unless my batting improves , it will be my last . " During the tour , tensions sometimes arose between the senior players , who were war veterans and drinkers , while the younger players including Craig tended to abstain from alcohol . Craig estimated that bus journeys to matches proceeded at an average speed of 16 km / h because of persistent stoppages outside pubs , something that frustrated the non @-@ drinkers .

= = = In the wilderness = = =

Upon returning home , Craig was unable to maintain the level of performances that he displayed in the previous Australian summer . In a season which contained no international cricket , he scored 395 runs at an average of 35 @.@ 90 in eight matches , placing him 20th in the season 's run scoring list . He scored 93 in an eight @-@ wicket victory over South Australia , and 106 for Arthur Morris 's XI in a testimonial match against Lindsay Hassett 's XI , his first century against Australian opposition .

Craig 's career was interrupted by final year university studies for a diploma of pharmacy at the University of Sydney and national service , causing him to miss the entire 1954 ? 55 season , including the home Test series against England , the early 1955 tour to the West Indies and the Sheffield Shield season . He returned to first @-@ class cricket during the 1955 ? 56 Australian season , and a healthy aggregate of 495 runs at 45 @.@ 09 with one century . During the season , he made his first century in the Sheffield Shield , amassing 145 against Queensland . For these performances , he was selected for the 1956 Ashes tour , the last player to be picked .

= = = Second Ashes tour = = =

Craig 's tour started poorly , and food poisoning hampered him until after the Second Test ? one particular severe bout forced him to be hospitalised . In his first six first @-@ class matches , Craig made only 104 runs at 17 @.@ 33 . His tour began to improve in late June , when he made consecutive half @-@ centuries against Yorkshire and Gloucestershire before breaking through in a match against Somerset . He was dropped before going on to score 62 and 100 not out ? his first century in 38 innings in England . He was selected for the Fourth Test at Old Trafford , after Australia had suffered a heavy defeat at Headingley in the Third Test at the hands of the Surrey spin pairing of Jim Laker and Tony Lock , Australia 's first innings defeat in 18 years . The Fourth Test was to be known as Laker 's Test , in which Laker took a record 19 wickets in the match . Laker trapped Craig leg before wicket for eight in the first innings as Australia were bowled out for 84 . In the second innings , Craig came out to bat at 1 / 28 in the second innings on a sticky wicket and combined in a defiant third @-@ wicket partnership of 59 with Colin McDonald . He battled for over four hours in compiling 38 before being dismissed by Laker . Reflecting on the match , Craig said " Jim bowled well , and we batted very badly . We were all pissed off , felt we 'd been duffed and we dropped our bundle a bit . " His stubborn display saw him retain his position for the Fifth Test at The Oval when he scored two and seven . Craig ended the season with 872 runs at 36 @.@ 33 from 20 matches , with one century and five fifties , the fifth highest aggregate for the Australians .

Despite his failure to reach double figures at The Oval , Craig maintained his position in the playing XI on the tour of the Indian subcontinent en route to Australia in late 1956 , playing Test matches against Pakistan and India . However , he failed to pass 40 in his five innings . He made a duck and 18 on a matting wicket in Australia 's one @-@ off Test against Pakistan in Karachi before playing in the First Test against India , scoring 40 in an innings win in Madras . He was dropped for the Second Test but returned to make 36 and 6 in the Third Test in Calcutta as Australia took a 2 ? 0 series win . The matches were the first time that Australia had played a Test in Asia .

= = Captaincy of Australia = =

= = = Youngest ever captain = = =

The 1956 ? 57 season marked the start of a renewal phase in Australian cricket . Australia had lost three consecutive Ashes series and had fallen from the heights of the " Invincibles " team that had toured England in 1948 . Australia were not scheduled to play any Tests until a tour of South Africa in 1957 ? 58 and captain Ian Johnson and his deputy Keith Miller retired upon their return to Australia , both men being in their late 30s . In a move regarded as surprising , the 21 @-@ year @-@ old Craig , rather than Richie Benaud , replaced the retired Miller as state captain and staked his claim to be a part of Australia 's long @-@ term future with a consistent season in which he scored 521 runs at an average of 47 @.@ 36 , with two centuries . New South Wales won another Sheffield Shield title under Craig 's leadership . In one match against arch @-@ rivals Victoria , Craig was ill with tonsillitis , but came out to bat with his team struggling at 7 / 70 while chasing a low total of 161 . Craig made 24 and put on 70 with Benaud to take his team towards victory , but the match eventually ended in a tie .

Near the end of the 1956 ? 57 season , the selectors met to choose a team for a short non @-@ Test tour of New Zealand . The leading contender for the captaincy was 28 @-@ year @-@ old Victorian Neil Harvey , who had been a regular member of the team for eight years and was the senior batsman . However , both Harvey and Miller had been criticised for their attitude towards Johnson in an official report to the board about the 1956 tour . The selectors thus thrust Craig into the leadership at the age of 21 and a half . He was a young player leading an inexperienced team ? the youngest cricket team from any country to be sent overseas , with no players older than 30 . It was seen as a bold move , as Craig had only played six Tests , was far from being a regular member of the team and had only a year of captaincy at first @-@ class level .

The day after the announcement , the Harvey @-@ led Victorians met Craig 's New South

Welshmen at the SCG . Harvey admitted to being irked by the board 's snub and felt that it was because of his blunt nature . The men were cordial at the toss and Craig sent the Victorians in to bat . At the same time , Colin McDonald broke his nose while practising in the nets and was taken to hospital . Harvey asked Craig for a gentleman 's agreement to allow a substitute , but the home skipper refused . An angry Harvey struck 209 in five hours , but Craig scored 45 and 93 to help secure a draw and therefore win the Sheffield Shield .

Craig , regarded as a personable , level @-@ headed and well educated man , was seen as an investment in the future . Personal skills were seen as important in an era when captains were expected to make many after @-@ dinner speeches at functions on tours , especially to England . Ray Robinson opined that " a sincere nature and unassuming manner " reduced the risk of team friction in the rebuilding phase and that Craig was " level headed and tactful beyond his years . " Craig 's lack of leadership ambition was cited as a major reason for the improvement in team harmony . The New Zealand tour was regarded as a test of Craig 's leadership . Wicket @-@ keeper Barry Jarman said that Craig " had to do it himself ... I wasn 't so dumb that I couldn 't see the senior players didn 't give him much support . " The senior players resented his surprise selection as captain , but he gained favour by defying a management @-@ imposed curfew , which was later scrapped .

During the tour , the Australians won all three of their first @-@ class matches against the hosts ' provincial teams . The Australians then played against a New Zealand representative team , although the matches were not classified as Tests . In the first game , Craig scored an unbeaten 123 in the second innings to ensure a draw after the visitors had conceded a first innings lead . In the second match , Australia stumbled to 6 / 146 in their second innings after conceding a first innings lead of 34 . After the unconvincing performances in the first two matches , Craig scored 57 in the third , which Australia won by ten wickets . Craig ended with 224 runs at 56 @.@ 00 in the three international matches and 308 runs at 38 @.@ 50 overall .

= = = South African tour = = =

At the start of the 1957 ? 58 season , Craig was made captain for Australia 's Test tour to South Africa , making him the youngest captain in Test history at the age of 22 years and 194 days , with Harvey as his deputy . The appointment came despite his mixed batting form during the New Zealand tour . The selectors further demonstrated their view to the future when they dropped veteran Ray Lindwall altogether . The average age of Craig 's team was two and a half years younger than the Australian squad sent to England in 1956 , and they had only one player over the age of 30 , whereas the 1956 team had five members over the age of 30 . As a result of the team 's relative inexperience , they were judged by critics to be the worst to have left Australian shores . Craig joined his team in Johannesburg after flying in from London , where he had been working for six months as a pharmacist , with the approval of the Australian board .

Craig 's workload grew after the team manager Jack Jantke suffered a heart attack before the tour , leaving the captain to handle off @-@ field matters until a replacement for Jantke was found two weeks later . Craig instituted a novel set of rules to raise morale , but journalists and former player Dick Whittington derided it as " Anglicised fripperies " , while Jack Fingleton said that Craig was " much too callow in years and experience to lead a team abroad . " Some players remained resentful of Craig 's dubious elevation but appreciated that he had not promoted himself and that he was fair and open to input from teammates .

Craig made a good start to the tour in two warm @-@ up matches against Rhodesia , scoring a century in each match . Australia won the matches by an innings and ten wickets respectively . Craig led his men in five first @-@ class matches before the Tests and Australia won all by convincing margins ; three ended in innings victories and the others were won by nine and ten wickets . This included a match against a South African XI , in which Craig scored 88 as Australia amassed 8 / 519 declared before winning by an innings .

Craig led his team into the First Test at Johannesburg starting on 23 December with an inexperienced bowling attack . With Lindwall dropped , the pace attack was led by Alan Davidson ,

who at the time had managed only 16 Test wickets in 12 matches . Davidson 's partner Ian Meckiff was making his debut . Benaud was in his first Test as the lead spinner , while left arm wrist spinner Lindsay Kline was another debutant . In all , Craig 's team had four debutants . Craig made only 14 and 17 as his team held on for a draw . At the end of the match , an unpopular 10 p.m. curfew that was imposed by the replacement manager was repealed .

The Australian skipper again struggled with the bat in the Second Test in Cape Town , making a duck , but this was overlooked by the media as his team won by a decisive innings margin . In the Third Test at Durban , Craig made 52 on a pitch that was difficult for batting , his first Test half @-@ century since his debut . His team scored 163 in their first innings , and after the hosts made 384 , Craig made a duck as Australia struggled to a score of 7 / 292 , salvaging a draw in the process . In the Fourth Test at Johannesburg , Craig promoted Benaud ahead of him in the batting order , feeling that flexibility in the team interest was paramount . Benaud scored a century , prompting Robinson to describe Craig 's action as " the most imaginative piece of captaincy of the season . " The innings allowed Australia to seize the momentum and set up a 10 @-@ wicket victory , which yielded an unassailable 2 ? 0 series lead .

Despite the disagreement as to whether Craig was deserving of the captaincy , the team proceeded without infighting . Prior to the Fifth Test , Craig wanted to drop himself due to poor form , which would have made Harvey captain . Peter Burge , the third member of the selection panel and a Harvey supporter , was comfortable with this , but Harvey ordered Burge to retain Craig . When the vote was formally taken , Harvey and Burge outvoted Craig , who was still offering to drop himself .

Craig failed to pass 20 in the Fifth Test as Australia won again to take a creditable 3 ? 0 series win , something highly unexpected at the beginning of the tour . Overall , Craig 's men won 11 of their 20 first @-@ class games on tour , and the South African Cricket Annual recognised the Australian captain 's leadership by naming him as one of their Five Cricketers of the Year .

= = Later career = =

= = = Hepatitis = = =

Although the match results were encouraging for such a young and inexperienced team , Craig scored only 103 runs at 14 @.@ 71 . Despite his contributions as a leader , this was not up to standard . He had trouble with his defence , being bowled eight times in 17 innings . In the 12 matches in the last three months of the tour , Craig passed fifty only once in 13 innings . However , the selectors did not have to reverse their youth policy : Craig contracted a bout of hepatitis before the start of the 1958 ? 59 season . He returned to cricket at the beginning of the season , but was underprepared , scoring two ducks in his only two innings of the season , the second coming against the touring England team . Craig declared that he was not ready for a return to Test cricket and relinquished the captaincy , which the selectors handed to Benaud . Benaud went on to defeat England 4 ? 0 ; as England were widely regarded as the best team at the time , this established him as captain of a resurgent Australia .

The illness @-@ enforced layoff left Craig facing an uphill battle to regain his place in the national team . Prior to the start of the 1959 ? 60 season , Craig recovered his health and toured South Africa with a Commonwealth XI , where he scored 276 runs at 55 @.@ 20 including a century against a combined Transvaal XI .

= = = Attempted comeback = = =

Returning to Australia , he had a moderately successful Sheffield Shield season , accumulating 376 runs at 31 @.@ 33 with three half @-@ centuries . New South Wales went on to win another title . The selectors named him to lead an Australian Second XI to New Zealand ? while the first choice team toured the Indian subcontinent ? hoping that he was still good enough to secure a long @-@ term future in the Australian team . The four matches against New Zealand were closely contested .

In the first match , Australia were 7 / 201 in pursuit of 22 for victory when time ran out . In the second fixture , Craig made 70 as the tourists struggled to 8 / 211 in pursuit of 262 for victory to hold on for a draw . After narrowly escaping defeat in the first two matches , Australia won the third match by eight wickets . In the final match , Australia reduced New Zealand to 8 / 149 in pursuit of 284 when time ran out , sealing a 1 ? 0 series win . Craig struggled with the bat , making 222 runs at 27 @. @ 75 in the games against New Zealand .

Craig had a strong Sheffield Shield season in 1960 ? 61 . At the time , he had become a production manager at his pharmaceutical firm and declared that the season would be his last owing to work commitments . His employers had been pressuring him to commit to a career after cricket . Early in the campaign , Craig scored consecutive centuries against Queensland and Victoria . He then scored 83 as New South Wales defeated the touring West Indians by an innings and 97 runs , but he was overlooked for Test selection . He ended his season with 197 in an innings victory over Western Australia . Overall , he totalled 710 runs at 59 @. @ 16 , as New South Wales won their eighth successive Shield . After a successful campaign , he reversed his decision and made himself available for the 1961 tour of England , but Bill Lawry was selected ahead of him .

= = = Final season = = =

The 1961 ? 62 season was Craig 's last at first @-@ class level ; he accumulated 629 runs at 37 @. @ 00 , with seven fifties but he was unable to convert any of these into a century . In one match against arch @-@ rivals Victoria , Craig scored 80 and 65 not out to help his team to a ten @-@ wicket triumph . New South Wales won six consecutive matches to seal another title , but Craig found himself under increasing pressure for his place in the state team ; with no internationals that season , all the Test players were available , which put his position under threat . New South Wales had a streak of nine consecutive Shield titles up until 1961 ? 62 , and the batting line @-@ up was particularly strong . The 1950s ? 60s era teams were regarded as among the strongest in Australian history . In total , Craig acted as captain in 48 first @-@ class matches , winning 27 , tying one and losing only two . Although Craig 's record as the youngest captain in Test history has now been surpassed , he remains the youngest Australian to have scored a first @-@ class double century , play a Test match and then captain the national team .

Craig signed off on his first @-@ class career at the end of the season with a tour of New Zealand with an International XI . He played in three matches and ended with 240 runs at 48 @. @ 00 ; in his final match , against the Cricket Club of India President 's XI , he made 101 , his 15th century at first @-@ class level .

= = Style = =

Standing 173 cm (5 ft 8 in) and weighing 63 kg (139 lb) , Craig was a lightly built and frail looking batsman . He had a neat and compact batting style . Craig was known for his leg side batting repertoire , in particular his ability to clip the ball from his pads . He had an unorthodox grip , low on the bat handle with the back of the top hand pointing to point . This caused him to have a tendency to close the face of his bat . Although Craig was small in stature , he was still able to hit the ball a long distance . During the testimonial match for Lindsay Hassett at the end of the 1953 ? 54 season , Craig struck four sixes in five balls from the off spin of Johnson . During his first tour to England , Craig had difficulty with off cutters bowled by pacemen and eschewed the hook shot , but after his comeback from illness , he transformed himself into an opening batsman , earning praise for his performances against the express pace of Wes Hall and Ian Meckiff . Benaud felt that Craig was finally reaping the rewards of his early experience . On Australian pitches , Craig had a reputation for having difficulty with the left arm wrist spin of Kline and David Sincock . Craig 's light build allowed him to move quickly while fielding , prompting Robinson to call him " the Bambi of the fielding side . " In his early years , Craig was a non @-@ smoker , but the pressure and tension brought on by the burden of captaincy resulted in him taking up the habit . He was known for being softly spoken , with his players often having to ask him to repeat his instructions . Craig had a

reputation for being good @-@ natured ; he did not complain about his cricket career and said that he had " no regrets . "

= = After cricket = =

Craig retired from first @-@ class cricket at just 26 years of age in 1962 , but continued playing for Mosman in Sydney grade cricket on weekends until 1969 . His marriage to Rosslyn Carroll in 1962 and his pharmaceutical career prevented him from applying himself fully to cricket . The couple had a boy and a girl , as well as an adopted son . Craig joined the Australian subsidiary of the British pharmaceutical firm Boots , rising to the position of managing director . He later served on the board of directors of the Bradman Museum in Bowral and later became its chairman . He was a board member of the New South Wales Cricket Association (NSWCA) for three years and served on the Trust of the Sydney Cricket Ground for varying periods from 1968 to 1996 , totalling 18 years . Upon first being appointed in 1968 to replace Stan McCabe , Craig was the youngest ever trustee of the SCG . One of the most controversial incidents during this time occurred in 1977 ? 78 during the period of the breakaway World Series Cricket , which wanted to install floodlights at the SCG . The NSWCA opposed this , while the government sided with WSC . As a result of Craig 's support of the NSWCA , the government dismissed him . Craig retired as the managing director of Boots ' Australian subsidiaries . Craig was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia in 1997 for his contributions to cricket as a player and administrator . He died in Bowral from cancer on 16 November 2014 .

= = Test match performance = =