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DATE:

**Very Wor. Bro. DEVERICK JOHN (Mick) CRONIN
(1911 - 1979)**

Deverick John Cronin was born on 18 March 1911 at Wagin, Western Australia, son of native-born parents, Michael Henry Cronin, farmer, and his wife Nellie Agatha, nee Dawson.

Although of Methodist background, Mick completed his primary education at a convent-run boarding school at Toodyay, then worked as a delivery boy and as an apprentice to a butcher at Harvey.

In 1930 he was recruited by East Perth Football Club which found him a job with a grocer in Perth.

Cronin was later employed at Whitty's lottery agency and at Boans Ltd. Department Store.

In the 1930's, he was also a middle-order batsman with the Subiaco Cricket Club.

Excelling in Australian Rules Football as an agile half-forward flanker and centreman with a penetrating left-foot kick, Cronin played 164 games for East Perth between 1930 and 1940, and in 1931, received its best and fairest award.

In 1936, the first of his five consecutive years as captain, he took the team from fourth place at the start of the finals to win the premiership.

He regularly represented Western Australia and won the inaugural Tassie Medal in the interstate carnival in 1937. After coaching East Perth from 1939 to 1941, he was made a Life-Member of the club in 1941.

On 6th April 1940 Cronin had married a stenographer, Roma Chipper at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Perth.

That year he opened a confectionery shop at the Hurlingham Picture Theatre, East Perth.

Mobilised in the Citizen Military Forces in January 1942, he served at home in the Australian Imperial Force for the duration of the war, engaged mostly in anti-aircraft activities. He was discharged with the rank of sergeant in October 1945, after which he ran snack shops in central Perth.

