

## THE NEW ZEALAND BRAVERY STAR (N.Z.B.S.)

### Walter Bruce BUTLER

Date of action: 7 December 1998

Date of award: 23 October 1999

#### *Citation*

On the morning of 7 December 1998, Mr Butler, aged 76, heard screams for help from a neighbour, a sixteen year old girl, who was being attacked by a young male wielding a large knife. The youth appeared intent on sexually violating the girl and had stabbed her several times in the upper back. Mr Butler rushed to the girl's aid and in doing so was himself savagely attacked by the youth who left the scene when passengers from a passing car stopped to assist. Mr Butler received wounds to his face and body which required over 400 stitches. Mr Butler's actions may well have saved the girl's life and he was fortunate not to have lost his own. He displayed outstanding bravery.