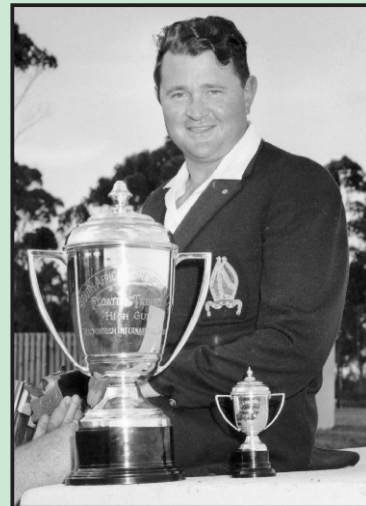




Everitt Murray

21st January 1937 to 5th January 2024

**A wonderful tribute
to a dear friend and fellow Clay Target Shooter :
Thomas Everitt Trollip Murray**



Everitt was exposed to clay target shooting after participating in Trap shoots held at the founder club in the Eastern Province, Fish River Gun Club, near Cradock. This exposure prompted him, together with his cousin Walter, to also initiate clay shooting in 1962 on his farm, Roode Bloem.

event, which has been a runaway success for many decades now. It is very popular amongst shooters from all over the country, regularly drawing participation numbers of 65 plus, making it one of the biggest open club events in South Africa.



**GRAAFF-REINET
GUN CLUB**

Everitt was awarded the Honoris Causa by the CTSASA in 2005, an accolade reserved only for those who have made a significant contribution to our Sport. In the almost 70 years of the CTSASA's existence, this award has only been given to three recipients, truly an acknowledgement of Everitt's influence on our sport.

In 1963 the Graaff Reinet Gun Club was officially formed, and the first General Meeting of its members was held at Roode Bloem on 17 August 1963, where Everitt was elected as Secretary.

Apart from being a consummate sportsman and shooter, Everitt was passionate about engaging in the ECCTSA's affairs. His presence at our ECCTSA's AGM's, always made a sane and rational contribution to the decisions that were made, always in the best interest of running our administration in the Eastern Cape.

In 1964, membership of the Clay Pigeon Shooting Association of South Africa was officially granted to GRGC. Everitt's CPSASA number was 4.

Going back in time, I met Everitt in 1981, when I was introduced to Clay Target Shooting. I was 30 at the time and Ev was 44. I immediately took a liking to this gentleman, and we soon became very good friends, a friendship that grew with every passing year and spanned almost 43 years.

His dedication and commitment to our Sport remains reflected in the fact that he served in the position of Secretary for the GRGC for a period of 59 years, a record for any administrator of CTSASA's many clubs.

Although Everitt started his shooting career in Full Use Trap, later known as DTL Trap, he soon established himself as a genuine all-rounder and he made his presence felt with great success in all other disciplines as well.

Everitt always ensured that he made newcomers to the club feel welcome. He was the quintessential gentleman, who never resorted to swearing, nor did he tolerate vulgar language or the use of profanity, especially in the presence of ladies.

He was a South African National Trap Champion as well as Captain of the teams that toured to the then Mozambique and Rhodesia, where the SA teams did very well.

I will miss Everitt for so many reasons:

· Like me, he was old school. When he ran the score board at shoots, he would compute score totals using only mental arithmetic, sadly a skill that has been lost with the advent of calculators and computers.

When the inter-provincial Chairman's Cup competition was launched in the mid 1980's, Everitt, because of his shooting expertise, often had to double up in more than one discipline for the Eastern Province team, underlying his rare talent to be able to be competitive in all of the shooting disciplines.

· No longer will I get my annual handwritten letter from Everitt, wishing me and Anett a merry Christmas and a happy new year.

I recall at a Chairman's Cup event at Maccauw Gun Club in the 1980's, the then secretary of the CPSASA, Joan Taylor, made the comment "if you scratch a Peters, you'll find a shooter" referring to the shooting talents of the likes of Hein, Wim and Allan Peters of that time. My response to her was simple: "Likewise a Murray!". To wit, in one of our closed Eastern Cape trial events held at GRGC some 20 years ago, team Murray won the Skeet event with Tim (99), Walter (98) and Everitt (96)!

· No longer will I get a signed cheque to reflect the amount due to ECCTSA for GRGC's affiliation fees, delivered in an envelope, inevitably also accompanied by a handwritten letter reflecting on life on the farm and club matters alike.

Two of the greatest sporting achievements by Everitt was him winning the Commonwealth nations' Macintosh trophy on two occasions (1966 and 1974), both times his winning score being 299/300. Remarkable indeed!

· No longer will I get his habitual twice a month telephone calls, just to catch up with the latest news and which he always started with, "How are you my old friend?"

In collaboration with the GRGC Executive Committee, Everitt played a significant role in the establishment of the Super Summer Sporting

On behalf of the CTSASA and the ECCTSA, our most sincere condolences to the Murray families. Although a big tree has fallen, he has left us an even bigger legacy.

R.I.P my friend.

**André Nagel
Chairman, Eastern Cape CTSA**

