

Clayton Lang

1976 – 2020



The highly respected surgeon was instrumental to the treatment of advanced melanoma and was described to have “a larger than life personality”, his colleagues at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital mourn.

One of four sons of Outback safari pioneers, Dick and Helen Lang, born in 1976, Clayton Lang was one of the state’s leading plastic surgeons.

The 44-year-old was Senior Staff Specialist at The QEH Woodville and had a private consultancy with Dextra Surgical on South Terrace.

The hospital's Head of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, Tim Proudman, said Mr Lang was a "highly valued" lead clinician at the Hand Surgery Clinic, focusing on patients with melanoma.

"It is such a tragedy that Clayton and his father Dick, were lost to us," he said.

"Clayton was providing high level advanced health care to his patients, contributing to the development of surgical knowledge and was a respected member of our Unit and of the plastic surgical community in SA.

"We knew him both professionally and personally as an individual of great value.

He still had more to contribute and he will be sorely missed by all members of the Plastic and Reconstructive Unit at TQEH.

We extend our deepest sympathies to all his family."

Mr Lang set up a combined clinic managing advanced melanoma surgeries and trained future plastic surgeons.

A graduate of the University of Adelaide medical school in 2001, Lang worked across Australia.

He returned to Adelaide from Queensland in 2014 to join Sach Day Surgery, later Dextra, in a partnership with fellow plastic surgeons, Randall Sach and Markus Nikitins.

Mr Sach, the long-term partner of the TV and radio personality Jane Reilly said news of the death of his close colleague was "tragic".

"His death will come as a great shock and loss to the Plastic Surgery fraternity at large, and to the many grateful patients he has helped over the years," Mr Sachs who retired recently said.

"He was a very talented, popular and personable Surgeon who held the respect of his colleagues and workmates in pursuing excellence in his surgical skills with strong commitments to both Public and Private Plastic Surgery practices.

Patients frequently provided glowing feedback of his care and devotion.

As a still young Surgeon and young man, to be denied the opportunity to fulfil his full potential is a dreadful tragedy that will resonate widely through our community."

Mr Lang, with a specialty interest in hand surgery, married his wife Christie, an anaesthetist, at the Glen Ewin Estate in 2009.

The couple has two daughters, Sophia and Madeline.