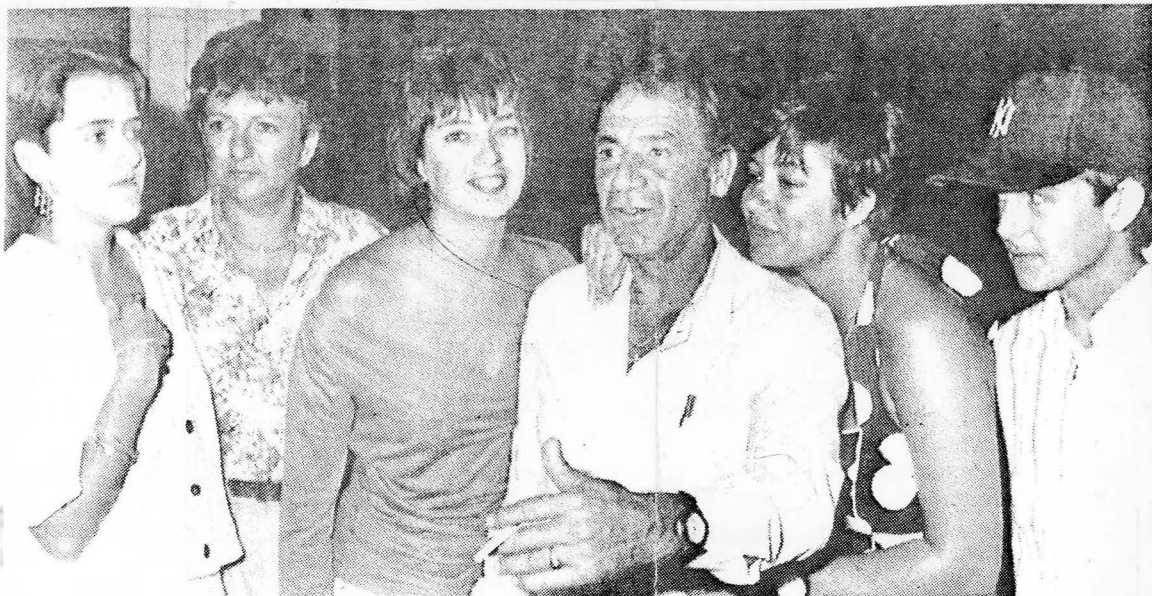




Home from the sea . . . around-the-world sailor Bertie Reed arrived in Cape Town last Wednesday to be greeted by his family. He flew home for a short break after completing the third leg of the BOC race. At the airport to greet him were daughter Pauline, wife Pat, daughters Angela and Jennifer and son Stanley.

Tears as Reed accepts bravery award

Own Correspondent

CAPE TOWN

— Bertie Reed has been presented with an award for outstanding bravery from President de Klerk.

The tough sailor, known as "Biltong Bertie" was visibly moved while accepting the award for saving John Martin from his sinking yacht during the BOC around-the-world race.

A tearful Reed said any competitor in the race would have done the same for any other competitor.

"I was fortunate to do the job. I helped John and it was just great to be there."

The award was presented to him last week by Minister of Education and of Environment Affairs Louis Pienaar.

The framed presentation read: "Dear Mr Reed. On behalf of the people of the Republic of South Africa, it gives me great pleasure to commend you on your outstanding seamanship, brave action and sportmanship when you selflessly saved your fellow-South African, John Martin, in extremely difficult and dangerous conditions.

"Through your 20-odd years of competing internationally, your contribution in putting South Africa among the foremost sailing countries in the world is unequalled.

"Your action in February 1991 in the treacherous Southern Ocean is the hallmark of a magnificent seafarer and is proof of a man of great humanity."

Mr Pienaar said Bertie Reed was a man of exceptional quality.

"Some of us read history, some of us witness history, few of us, like Bertie, make history," he said.