

James (Jim) Norman Tanner

James died on May 6th and his funeral was on Friday 27th on the Isle of Wight. The following is based on his Class Notes and a resume from his brother, to whom we are indebted.

Of his time at King Edwards, Jim wrote: "I joined King Edward's early in January 1944 at the age of nine, following in the footsteps of my brother John who was a pupil from 1940 to 1943. I soon settled down, particularly once I found that I enjoyed most sports. I eventually played football and cricket for the school, and represented the school in a number of events at the Godalming and District school athletics competition. In my last year I was Prefect of Nelson house. I was also a bugler in the band and in my last year or so was appointed Band Sergeant."

After leaving King Edwards school in 1950 Jim went into the Royal Air Force as an apprentice at Cranwell, Lincolnshire and trained on radar and guided missiles. He graduated as a Junior Technician Air Radio Fitter, and wrote technical manuals for the RAF after leaving the RAF in 1974 when he was 40. During his apprenticeship he was Drum Major in the Bagpipe and Trumpet Band.

He went to Marconi Radar Systems in Leicester (1974-1976) and then to Plessey Radar Systems on the Isle of Wight, where he was employed as a senior Technical Author.

In February 1986 he moved to Toulouse in France to write servicing manuals for the Airbus. The contract finished in April 1989 when he moved to Fokker Aircraft in Eindhoven in the Netherlands, joining a company that produced a lithographic machine used in the manufacture of microprocessors. Jim retired at the end of August 1997 and went back to Argelès-sur-mer located near Perpignan in France where they had bought a house, spending more than eight very happy years, before coming back to Hampshire in May 2006.

In 1955, Jim married Brenda and had a daughter Dawn, then 3 grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren. Our thoughts go out to all of them.

7 June 2016