

## **GRAEME WEIR (1928 – 2021)**

Speaking with Graeme was always a treat and he always had something new to share – about his time at King Edward's, his career with Mobil Oil in property acquisition, his many hobbies, or Sudbury, his beloved home for 50 years.

In a recent conversation Graeme described how the Navy commandeered the King Edward's School in 1941 and all boys over 12 left school, while the rest went to Hambledon. He reminisced about the Chapel and described his clear memory that the chapel always smelled of English Oak. He took notice of, and really admired, the workmanship of the woodwork, in particular the pulpit which is so elaborate. He reminisced about his woodwork teacher Mr Cooper and Mr Stonberry who taught metal work and the respect he had for each of them and the skills they possessed. After all these years, he still had a brass fork in his study that he made at school!

Graeme was happy at School and made good friends. His best friends were Dick Isaac, Goodwin and Dowling. Dick was Graeme's Best Man at his wedding to Patricia and Graeme was happy to be act as Dick's Best Man. He very much valued his friendships from his school years.

Born and raised in the Ilford area, Mr Weir completed his national service shortly after the conclusion of the Second World War, serving overseas with the 9th Parachute Battalion of the 6th Airborne Division in Palestine.

Following his return to England, he moved to the east of England with his wife, Patricia, in the 1950s, while working as a development site surveyor for Mobil, from 1949 to 1981, and then The Landware Group until his retirement in 1987.

While living in Suffolk, he also developed a keen interest in both motor sport and aircraft, joining Ipswich Flying School and earning his pilot's licence in 1965. He later transitioned into aerobatics and owned a series of aircraft to support his hobby.

Always pleased to support KESW, he continued to give generously to the Bridewell Foundation each year. In 2020 Graeme achieved Bridewell Fellow status; he was unable to attend the Bridewell ceremony to receive his award in person but he was delighted with his Fellowship medal and that he had been able to support pupils who needed support. He was pleased to receive photos of the Bridewell Day event.

Graeme will be fondly remembered by friends and family following his death on Saturday, February 6, at the age of 93.

