



Society of Old Framlinghamians

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Dear Peter

I have already passed on to you and your family my sincere personal condolences at the loss of your father, and I know that David has communicated with you, as President of the Society.

I am now writing, as Hon Gen Sec of the SOF, on behalf of all Old Framlinghamians, to express not only our sadness at your father's passing, but also our collective pride at all that he achieved in the course of his very distinguished life. Not only did he achieve fine things at the College as a young man (Head Boy, chorister, great sportsman), but he then went on to follow a distinguished military career and one that could easily have diverted his allegiance away from his old school. Far from allowing that to happen, he maintained his contacts both with the Society of Old Framlinghamians, in which he played a fiercely loyal, hard-working and creative role, and with the College which he served with great distinction as a Governor and Chairman of Governors. It was fitting that we should have included him in our recent SOF Presentation at the College.

Despite his distinguished position he was never aloof, but, always approachable, always interested in others. He made and sustained friendships across the generations, deserving of the admiration of all who have known him. No one knows better than I do how insistent he was on attending Framlingham functions as long as he was physically and mentally able to do so, and how that determination impacted on his son. Your own loyalty to the cause must have come down to you through the genes, and I am sure that Sir Pat (what a lovely amiable and affectionate mode of address!) was as proud of what you are now doing for the Society, as you are proud of him and of all that he achieved for us and for the College.

General Sir Pat was almost certainly one the most distinguished of all post-war Framlinghamians. We cherish all that he did for the Society and for the College, and very much hope that the next edition of the Yearbook will carry a full and fitting tribute to a man who will be greatly missed but whose achievements and contributions will never be forgotten.

Our thoughts are with you and your family at this sad time.

With our sincere condolences

Norman Porter
Hon Gen Sec SOF