

John Alexander Waugh, 1932 to 2023.

Written by Ruth Elwood, SOF Hon Gen Sec. on 21st February 2023

John passed away peacefully at home, on 29th January, at the age of 91. He was beloved husband to the late Sue and a much loved father of Alec, Harry and Sally. Dear Grumpa to Charlotte, Heloise, Taylor, Arthur and Tom.

His funeral was held on a crisp, sunny day, at St Mary's Church in Newmarket, where his life was celebrated with family, many friends and OFs, to include Peter Golding, Tony Martin, Michael Smy, Simon Dougherty, Ruth Elwood and Kate Jackson. At 12.00 midday, John was carried into the church to the music of, 'Water Music Suite, in D Major – Hornpipe', by Handel, with two wreaths laid on his coffin. One was from the Society of Old Framlinghamians and staff at Framlingham College, in white and blue flowers; with a second, larger wreath from his family, in his racing colours of blue and orange.

Sir Mark Prescott gave the eulogy, reminiscing over John's long racing career as a trainer and personal friend. This was followed by John's daughter, Sally Herson, who said a few words, highlighting John's love of his old school and his extended family of Old Framlinghamians who had been such an important part of his life. Charlotte Kitchener, John's granddaughter, who had flown in from Australia for the occasion, spoke generously of her grandfather, whilst being a little overwhelmed by the numbers she faced in the congregation. Before reading from the Bible, William Jarvis, a personal friend, told us all a little about the four successful generations of race horse trainers in the Waugh family, noting that 28 members of the family had received an education at Framlingham College.

The recessional music was one of John's favourites; as we left the church to the vibrant sound of 'In the Mood', by the Glenn Miller Band, before making our way across to Tattersalls, for a superb spread of refreshments, chatting amongst friends over time's past.

John was a racing legend in Newmarket and will be missed by everyone, remembered dearly for his immaculate, well groomed appearance and envious, cheeky school boy smile, always, with a twinkle in his eyes.

Donations may be made payable to Motor Neurone Disease Association and sent care of Southgate of Newmarket Funeral Directors, 25 Duchess Drive, Newmarket CB8 8AG.





