

Biography of David Hammond



This Biography is dedicated to David George Hammond: a father, husband and Grandfather.

Growing Up

David was born in Wisborough Green in Sussex, in 1936. Three years before, in 1933, Barbara, David's elder sibling was born. His earliest memory was of being on West Wittering sea side. He was on holiday and enjoyed the sea side so much he later lived by the sea. It was his favourite place as a child.

David went to school at Horsham Grammar which was 10 miles away from Wisborough Green so David never saw his school friends. He would only see his village friends whom he was still good friends with from his primary school.



David belonged to many clubs during his childhood such as Cubs, Cricket and Drama club. He was also part of the church choir. As a teenager he was the treasurer of the Football club. When David was growing up he helped a lot on farms where he did a lot of work with tractors. He belonged to the Young farmers club. They had annual variety nights where he danced and performed in plays.

David was not a very ambitious child but he enjoyed cricket so much that he would have loved to have played cricket for a living.

School Life

David attended Wisborough Primary School. It was a small village school, but never-the-less David enjoyed it tremendously. When David first started at Wisborough Primary School he found it extremely hard going and frightening. His favourite teacher in primary school was Mrs Lewis who was the head teacher's wife.

David then went on to Collyers School and finally Horsham Grammar School. But he still felt that he was not very clever and also admitted he wasn't very attentive! He did all the subjects including Latin. One of his teachers was Mr Soaper, a biology



teacher. David particularly remembers him because Mr Soaper brought his pet squirrel in to show the class. Out of all these subjects he enjoyed Science the best. Which he later went on to teach.

David left school at 17 in 1953. He did not immediately go to college or university but later went to a teacher training college, where he met his wife, Jane Mary Ingles.

Working Life



David, at 17, went to work in a physics Laboratory as a Research assistant. He enjoyed it enormously because he had always liked physics at school.

In 1955, David did his National service. He worked as an Air Radar Mechanic in the RAF. He was stationed in Upwood, Huntingdonshire. This is now known as Cambridgeshire. He worked there from July 1955 to July 1957. At the time he resented it. He didn't want to be there but as it was compulsory he had no choice. He was chosen to become an officer but decided he would not like to be one because he would have had to work longer in the RAF. Although, looking back on it he feels he had a very good experience and also said it was enjoyable.

His career as a teacher was mainly teaching science. But he also taught music occasionally. His most memorable experience of being a teacher was being promoted to head of the science department.

David was permitted to hit his pupils with a cane, however, he refrained because he did not agree with it. David retired at the age of 57 in 1993.

Family Life

David proposed to Jane Mary Ingles and in 1961 they married. He met her at a teacher training college where Jane was also training to be a teacher. They got married in Willersy Methodist church and went to the Channel Islands in Jersey on their honeymoon. They recently returned there after 40 years as a gift from their children. Unfortunately David's father died when David was a young child. David's mother was alive to see David and Jane get married. When David was asked who he had thought had made the biggest influence on his life he said he felt that his wife, Jane, had. In January 1964 they bought their first house in Chichester. They later lived in Boshom. The hardest decision David said he had made was to move house from Boshom to Christen Mares.



In the same year they got married they had Elizabeth Anne known as Anne. David had two other children after Elizabeth; Timothy David Hammond and John Michael Hammond.



Jane and David have 7 Grandchildren altogether. Fredrick who is John's son, Harriet, Rose, Florence and Charlie who are Anne's children. George and Benjamin who are Tim's sons.

Present Day

At present Jane and David are living at Christen Mares, Willersey Hill. It is a large house in the country side with a lot of land surrounding. David also has a house in Instow, Devon. It is a lovely cottage looking out on the Estuary. Just a five minute walk from the beach and a short cars journey away from most other beaches. They enjoy going there very much but when they are not down, their friends, relatives and connections go down there to stay.



David's interests include gardening and bell ringing. David has a big garden to look after and he does it very well. He grows copious amounts of fruits and vegetables including tomatoes, cherries, and apples. Also he does a large amount of bell ringing at the local village church. David also takes part in a lot of D.I.Y as he helps a lot in Anne's house and does a lot in his own house and garden. David has had a lifelong interest from the age of about 10 in amateur radio. But recently computers have taken its place. David has always been a church goer.



David supports Manchester United Football Club. He has supported them ever since the 1957 air crash in Europe. He watched the team rebuild and become a successful team once again.

