

GEORGE GIFFORD

George was born in 1941 in the West Midlands and was introduced to sport in his early years, learning to play cricket and sail at the age of seven. When he left school he joined the Second Royal Tank Regiment, serving in Cyprus as part of the Peace-keeping Force. Apart from developing a strong team spirit and learning to drive 'tracked vehicles', George further extended his sporting prowess to skiing, shooting and the pentathlon.

After leaving the Army he spent some time at the Calshot Activities Centre as an Instructor before moving to the School of Navigation, Warsash in 1968 as a Bosun/Instructor on the school's sail training vessel, Halcyon.

George married Hazel in 1968 and his daughter Alex was born in 1972 and in 1974 George 'came ashore' to spend more time with his family. In 1978 George obtained his degree from the OU.

In 1996 George was elected as a Cachalot, he was Captain of the Cachalots Cricket Section for two years and was the only player to win the Sutton Trophy for two successive years in 1998 and 1999.

Latterly, as the President, George left the Southampton Master Mariners Cricket Section with two superb legacies - via family connections, the Otterbourne Cricket Club ground on which to play our home matches; and his overseeing of the design of our new Club sweater.

Unfortunately, due to the limited space in the Cachalot, we can only give a brief picture of George's life and times but close with our thanks for his legacy and the memories that he has left us. Our thoughts and condolences go to Hazel and all of his family.