

GRAHAM ANTHONY WATKINS



Graham Anthony Watkins was born in Grimsby on 31 July 1924. Educated at Wintringham Grammar School, he was Captain of cricket in 1941.

Graham joined the army in 1942, 164 O.C.T.U Barmouth and was commissioned Green Howards in 1943. Posted to the 1st Battalion at Anzio in 1944, he was wounded by mortar bomb and evacuated to Naples. He rejoined the Battalion who were leaving for the Middle East for a rest and refit. He spent a year there then was diverted to Europe where the Battalion took part in the last infantry attack of the war at Buchen. Shortly after VE day he broke his leg playing football and was flown back to England. He rejoined the 6th Battalion who were posted to Cyprus in 1946 and on their disbandment was given command of 16, 17, 18 A.D.R.U attached to the RAF at Athens airport. He was very proud to have been a Green Howard in spite of living in Sussex.

He was demobilised in 1947 and entered Guy's Hospital as a dental student. The next five years were greatly enjoyed as a student, where he played soccer for Guy's and made innumerable visits to the ballet and opera in Covent Garden.

In 1951 he married Gill Ginifer and after qualifying in 1952 moved to the practice of Quinton and Tockell in Bexhill. In 1957 he purchased the practice of James Honiblow in Devonshire Place, Eastbourne, where he practised until his retirement in 1988.

He was always greatly satisfied restoring function and features by excellent prosthetics and crown and bridgework. He liked children and was proud to treat three generations; the last he claimed hardly ever needed a filling. His practice at Devonshire Place had a most loyal and long serving staff and few patients but a tremendous amount of friends.

He was Chairman of the Eastbourne Section of the BDA between 1966 and 1968 and in 1988 he was honoured to serve as President of the Southern Counties Branch of the BDA.

His wife Gill survives him along with their two sons Nicholas and Rufus and grandchildren Olivia, Ava, Emma, Jonathan and Rupert.

Lieutenant Colonel Ru Watkins

JOHN ANTHONY PRICE



Tony Price was born in Stafford in 1923. After attending Stafford Grammar School he studied dentistry at Birmingham University. The War had just started and

his studies were punctuated with nights spent fire-watching on the rooftops of local factories. With a bucket of sand and a long-handled shovel, he would race to extinguish the German fire bombs before they could ignite whichever building he was guarding.

He was on duty on the night of 14 November 1940 when Coventry was bombed and remembered watching the glow on the horizon as the city burned. The next day, together with fellow members of the Birmingham

University Officer Training Corps, he went to help tend the wounded and clear up the mess.

Qualifying on 22 December 1944, Tony joined the Royal Navy Volunteer Reserve as a Sub-Lieutenant and was posted as Dental Officer to the cruiser HMS Bermuda, the flagship of the Pacific Battle Fleet. His surgery was perilously close to the main gun turrets and whenever they fired, the shockwave would blow everything off his shelves. On one occasion the surgery door was blown off while a patient was in the chair.

Nicknamed 'Toothy' because of his profession, during his time aboard HMS Bermuda he visited Ceylon, Australia, Korea, Formosa, Hong Kong, China and Japan. His most intense memories were of walking through the ruins of Hiroshima and Nagasaki where he recalled picking up a salt cellar, the glass contorted by the intense heat of the devastating blast.

In 1948 Tony left the Navy and joined his elder brother Don Price in his dental practice in Stafford where he met his brother's dental nurse, Elvina Sillito. In 1950 they were married and moved to south London where Tony established his own practice in Middleton Road, Morden. He spent the next decades building his practice, raising his family, and indulging his passion for cars, spending hours in his garage tinkering with engines.

Tony Price passed away on Saturday 23 April in St George's Hospital Tooting after a short illness. He is survived by his wife and two children.

N. Price