

# Obituary

Obituaries should be submitted by email to Jonathan Coe at [jonathan.coe@nature.com](mailto:jonathan.coe@nature.com).

All submitted obituaries should be 400 words maximum in length (apart from obituaries for past presidents of the BDA where the length should be 800 words).

Content of the obituary is down to the individual author, and the approval of the family should be given for the obituary prior to submission to the *BDJ*.



**Adrian Harold Redfern Rowe**

1925–2019

Professor Adrian Harold Redfern Rowe, generally known as 'Jack', decided to be a dental surgeon at age five and never changed his mind. He was greatly influenced by his father, who was in practice, and a dentist with whom he lived as an evacuee during the early part of the war. He started at Guy's in 1943, took 2nd MB in 1945 (despite being interrupted by V1 flying bombs and temporarily living in an air raid shelter) and obtained the BDS in 1948. Appointed house surgeon to Kelsey Fry (later Sir), he was called up for national service, preventing completion of the rest of the MB. He served 18 months in the Royal Army Dental Corps in Egypt's canal zone, and in Libya in a mobile dental truck.

Professor Rowe then went into practice with David Robinson, worked part-time at Guy's and ran the equivalent of a full-time practice. He passed the FDS exam in 1954 and in 1962 was appointed senior lecturer in the conservation department at Guy's, being awarded the MDS degree of the university in 1965. He was a pioneer in the area of endodontology, and in 1967 he was appointed reader and head of the department of conservative dental surgery and promoted to professor in 1971. There were many highlights in his career, including designing the new conservation department for the tower and moving from the old building in 1975.

During the following years he was involved with: the Medical Defence Union, the medical sub-committee of the University Grants Committee, the Board of Faculty of Dental Surgery of the Royal College of Surgeons, the University of London Board of Studies in Dentistry as Chairman, Senator of the University of London (representing dentistry), the Endodontic Society, the British Society for Restorative Dentistry, external examining in

dental surgery in many major UK universities and also across Africa and Asia.

He was elected Dean of the Dental School in 1985, on the day that Guy's merged with the Royal Dental Hospital of London School of Dental Surgery. He always gave the impression of enjoying his work at Guy's and the company of his colleagues; as he noted: 'I had the great privilege to work with many distinguished colleagues, including Tony Naylor, Nick Vale, Stephen Challacombe, Tom Pitt Ford and Richard Johns, to mention just a few'. In 1993, he was awarded the Collyer Gold Medal by the College of Surgeons for distinguished services to dentistry.

Professor Rowe will be sorely missed by all of us who knew and worked alongside him at King's. His greatest legacy may well be the generations of students that he inspired and for which he was a role model. He passed away aged 93 on 22 May 2019 in QEQM Hospital, Margate after a short illness. He leaves his wife Pat and three sons.

By Stephen Challacombe



*"Thank you for making the last year possible. Your support has meant our lives have not spiralled to irrecoverable depths and we have gradually been able to rebuild ourselves as a family."*

You do not need to be a member of the BDA to receive help.

Please call us on 0207 4864994 or  
apply via [www.bdabenevolentfund.org](http://www.bdabenevolentfund.org)