

ROYAL NAVAL COMMANDO ASSOCIATION

PATRON; VICE ADMIRAL SIR PATRICK BAYLY KBE CB DSC**

President; Rt.Hon. The Earl Nelson ... Vice President; Rear Admiral E.F.Gueritz CB OBE DSC*

Hon. Vice Presidents; Mr. N. Draper DSC
Mr. G. Fagence

Chairman Mr.K.Oakley

NEWSLETTER NUMBER 84 DECEMBER 1996

N.B. For the time being please channel all secretarial correspondence through the Hon. Treasurer Ron Lawrence, 18, Crane Drive, Verwood, Dorset.

Shipmates,

It is with deep regret that I have to open this letter on a particularly sad note, but many of you will be unaware that our Hon. Secretary, George Wilson has recently died. Unfortunately with our membership being so widespread, the Newsletter is our sole means of communication except locally, and I hope you will be understanding and forgive any unavoidable delay in letting you know.

We convey our heartfelt love and sympathy to Jean and her family, and wish them to know that they have our support and prayers at this time.

It was George's express wish that he should be allowed to "Cross the bar" quietly and without ceremonial, and so it was. Twenty three of our members and their wives attended the funeral service of our shipmate who stood so high in our regard and affection. Donations as a tribute to his memory may be sent to Mr.Charles Rutt at The Old Farm House, Hinton Martell, Wimborne Dorset. BH21 7HE for either the RNCA or the British Lung Foundation.

George was a pivot of the Association and a staunch friend, quite dedicated in his work as our secretary, he carried out so conscientiously despite his long and taxing illness. We owe him a considerable debt of gratitude.

One of our members has written the following as his own tribute to George which expresses the feelings of us all.

"George was one of nature's gentlemen. He was indeed a gentle man with a rare sense of humour which was much appreciated.

His dedication and professionalism to the Association was outwardly manifested by the quarterly Newsletters which were eagerly awaited and avidly read.

His obvious courage in the face of his adversity is an example to us all and those of us who were associated with him have benefited from the experience.

George will be sadly missed"

So many of you have written or telephoned expressing your own personal condolences that I am sure you will understand that Jean is unable to reply individually

