



Bro. Maurice Charles Newman
Junior Warden & Charity Steward
Peace & Harmony Lodge No. 9852
1949 - 2017

Maurice Charles Newman was born on 28th October 1949 in Battersea, London.

He and his sister Pauline were very young when tragedy struck. His mother, who had found herself a single parent when they were very young, was killed in a road accident. After a very unsettled period in his life he and his friend Billy went to the local army recruiting office intending to 'join up'. Billy got rejected and Maurice was signed up then and there.

Maurice was enlisted into the Royal Green Jackets. During his career among other postings, it is thought he completed 3 tours of Northern Ireland, luckily being posted home just a few days before Bloody Sunday in Derry.

After a successful career his Discharge book shows Exemplary Conduct for the whole of his service.

On leaving the Army Maurice joined the prison service, and served at Parkhurst in the Isle of White, which was then a top security Jail holding many notorious criminals. He was well respected in the Prison Service and was appointed as personal officer to Reggie Kray, one of the Kray twins from the East End. It seems Reggie's mother would come to Maurice and say 'what's he been up to now?'

He played a significant part in calming a major riot, and for that was awarded a Certificate of Meritorious Conduct by Princess Anne.

He eventually got a transfer to Deerbolt Young Offenders Institute up in the North East of England, near to Darlington. That's where his charity work really began, with him and his fellow officers raising money to buy toys and medical supplies to deliver to children orphaned by the war in Vilnius. They hired vans and drove over there themselves. He also developed a team leader's course for the young offenders, utilising skills he'd been taught in the Royal Green Jackets. As part of that he built an obstacle course for them, which when opened was called the Newman course after him, but being the shy retiring type that he was, he insisted it meant the New Man course!

After both coming through bad times, Maurice met Barbara, a Yorkshire Lass from Sheffield after Maurice posted an advert in the Local Lonely hearts column. When they eventually met it was love at first sight and since that day they have been devoted to each other.

When Maurice retired, he and Barbara decided to retire to Cyprus where they settled in Peyia near to Paphos. They had hoped to have a quiet life! Well, that didn't work. It wasn't long before he became a DJ, Maurice on the Mike, doing 24 hour stints to raise money for charities. This was triggered when his grandsons were in the children's ward here at Paphos General Hospital, and when he visited he could see that it wasn't a particularly joyful place for kids to be in, so he raised money to build a play room, and did it again to create a garden and play area.

His charity work didn't stop there. The list of his endeavours is amazing, being involved in having a Christmas party for 37 refugee children, being charity steward for his local Freemasons Lodge, working hard to help establish the local Branch of the Royal British Legion, loving being Father Christmas at Children's parties, and many other things. In his spare time, and goodness knows how he managed that, he enjoyed playing darts, again excelling at that being ranked 16th in the whole of Cyprus.

Maurice was a very loyal friend to many, a devoted and loving husband and father, filled with a genuine love for others and working hard to improve the lives of those who suffer. He even loved old cars and restored them, giving them new life in the local Classic Car Club. Maurice was a natural leader of people, winning their respect by respecting them.

Based on the Eulogy given by Pastor Allan Hodgson at Maurice's Interment.

Masonic History

Maurice was an active and enthusiastic member of Peace & Harmony Lodge No.9852

He was Initiated on 18th September 2011

Passed on 15th December 2011

and Raised on 17th September 2012

At the time of his very unexpected and tragic passing he was Junior Warden and Charity Steward of his Lodge.

As mentioned above, Maurice was very well known and much respected for his Charity Fundraising and was the driving force behind most of the Peace & Harmony Lodge social/fundraising functions.

He is survived by his wife Barbara, his sister Pauline and Brother in Law Robin, his children Keith, Steven, Sally, Kay and Michelle, his grandchildren Reece, Joshua, Alexis, Jack and Tabatha, and his nephews David and Paul

Maurice's Funeral was held on Tuesday 6th June 2017 at Peyia Cemetery and was attended by approximately 150 people including representatives from the Royal British legion and other ex-servicemen who paid him due honours. The attendance reflected the respect and admiration he was held in.

After the interment a celebration of his life was held at the Sunflower Bistro on the Tomb of the Kings Road, Paphos.

A decent, kind and gentle man and Brother, he will be sorely missed by all who knew him.

