



Peter J Chappell, (OB 1944 -51)
24.07.1933 - 3.04.2017.

From Peter's son, Graham:

Dad worked at Coutts Bank after Bancrofts School. In 1954 he left for Canada and worked in Montreal, with the Canadian Pacific Railroad. He met Jean, his future wife, at a rugby match in Montreal and they were married in 1959. Sons David (1961) and Graham (1965) were both born in Montreal, just before the family moved to Milngavie, Glasgow, Scotland. Youngest son Martin was born in Glasgow in 1969. Dad worked with Singer Business Machines and ICL whilst being moved to Royston, Hertfordshire for the entire 1970's. At home, he had a love of gardening and the family of five each had their own shed in the third of an acre garden. Dad joined Reed Cricket Club just south of Royston and played at many village games on warm Sunday afternoons in those glorious summers!

There was a further move to Ilkley in West Yorkshire in 1980. Dad worked at the International Wool Secretariat and later the local Small Firms Service throughout Yorkshire, advising new and existing companies on growth and development. The first of two golden retrievers joined the dwindling family at home, as David had remained in Hertfordshire and Graham, in 1987, moved to Canada, returning to the UK in 1989.

Dad & Mum started to make the odd trip back to Canada when possible to see their old friends, but also took self catering holidays on the Isle of Arran. A house was purchased here in the small village of Lochranza in 1992 and they moved up to the house full time in 1993. Now semi retired, Dad maintained working for a local enterprise board and, in 1995, Graham came to live at the house with his parents. Dad and Graham (with a colleague) set up 'Arran Graphics' in 1996, a graphic design company on the island. Occasional return trips were made by Mum and Dad to Canada in the early 2000's until, around 2009 after Mum contracted Alzheimer's and later moved into a care home in 2011. Dad suffered hugely from living without Mum and, now with dementia himself, eventually moved into Templeton House Care Home in Ayr in September 2015. Mum died in July 2016, with Dad sadly following just 35 weeks later.

In his later years, Dad enjoyed amateur dramatics, singing, his five grandchildren and many trips away with Mum, and then with Graham and grandson Carter, where we got back to Canada in 2011 and to the southwest USA in 2014 to fulfil a promise to his own mother that I'd get Dad to see the Grand Canyon.

Dad loved research and carried out many investigations into his own family and into historical events in North America during the very start of the Hudson Bay company. He loved socialising either with friends or by holding talks and slideshows on Arran which featured many subjects, but usually with a strong Canadian link. It also goes without saying that Dad loved the Old Boy reunions.

Dad's ashes (with some of Mum's) will be taken to a suitable part of the forest on the shores of Moira Lake, Ontario where their close friends, Curt & Beverly Brinkman, still have their lakeside home. Mum and Dad loved the fall colours here.

Graham Chappell, Isle of Arran

From Fred Emery (OB 1944-51)

“Pete” Chappell, who has died aged 83 came to Bancroft’s in 1944 when the Nazi V1s and V2s were still falling around London. He was part of the wartime intake of bright boys from inner London schools for whom the London County Council paid to be sent as boarders to public schools, and, like so many contemporaries, he repaid their commitment by flourishing here, especially in sports and the arts.

If he did not shine early on academically, he was diligent in pursuing many activities. He was an eager Sea Scout, he sang both in the school choir and in the Combined Choir in which Loughton High school girls performed concerts alongside Bancroft’s male voices. He acted in many school dramatic productions, completing his career as villain in the summer melodrama of 1951.

In sports he became a fine spin bowler, and a fair bat, and was awarded school cricket cap and colours. He was a keen rugger fly half, and played in the 2nd XV, and he was also an enthusiastic athlete. After leaving, he was active in the OBFC rugger teams, and a few years ago he produced a chronicle of OBFC highlights in the first ten years after the war.

In the mid fifties I remember visiting him in Montreal where he was enjoying his bachelor days working in commerce and playing cricket on Canadian pitches. Pete was a natural comic, and always great fun to be with.