

OBITUARY



PAGE GERALD CLOUSER -22nd August 1938 – 2nd July 2010

The former landlord of The Crown pub in Stanhoe, where we had frequently held monthly lunches, died on 1st July, ironically the day before our July lunch, and the day before the reopening of Stanhoe's pub as the Duck Inn (had it happened to someone else, that's a story Page would have enjoyed telling!). He had suffered a stroke whilst in his car, and died in hospital. He had visited the Duck Inn at times during its redevelopment, and pronounced the alterations to his satisfaction!

Page Clouser was born at Wolvercote, near Oxford, but when he was eight years old the family moved to Norfolk. After a private education at St. Michael's in Ingoldisthorpe, he worked briefly as an orderly at the old King's Lynn hospital before joining the Royal Air Force where he trained as a radio operator and later served as a Sgt Air Traffic Controller. He was posted to Malaya and then to a NATO position in Norway.

When he left the RAF he returned to Norfolk and became a tyre salesman, going on to manage a tyre depot in Eastbourne. Later, with his then wife, Sarah, he ran the general store in Docking for several years until, in 1984, took over the tenancy of The Crown public house in Stanhoe. He continued as landlord of The Crown for 25 years, where he loved to regale customers with his stories over a drink or three, until December 2009 when he finally retired and moved to Snettisham.

Throughout his life he was an enthusiastic sportsman, playing hockey and cricket in his youth, and later becoming a keen shot and a skilful fly fisherman. In his retirement he was beginning to enjoy a stress-free life and was able to take up fishing again on a more regular basis. He made new friends wherever he went, and it was a great shock to everyone when he died unexpectedly after suffering a major stroke. His funeral at Mintlyn Crematorium was extremely well attended and packed with family, and friends old and new – a fine testament to his popularity, generous nature, and loyalty.

Page had been a Legion and branch member since 2006, and although it was unfortunately not possible for the branch standard to be present at his funeral, the branch Chairman arranged for the Royal Air Forces Association King's Lynn branch standard to be present.