
Obituary - Paul Francis Dobson



Born in Liverpool on 22nd January 1940, one of three children, Paul's early years of education were spent at St. Edwards College, Liverpool. At the age of 11 he followed his vocation into the religious life by joining the junior house of the Redemptorist Order at Erdington Abbey in Birmingham and at aged 18 he went on to the Redemptorist Novitiate in Perth to study for the priesthood. However, after a year, he decided not to continue with his religious training and instead joined the Library Service for a short time before beginning his banking career with the District Bank.

On 2nd January 1965, he married Teresa, the love of his life, at Bishop Eaton in Liverpool. They had two daughters, Clare and Denise, a son Michael and latterly five grandchildren, Tara, Katie, Jack, Molly and Lucy. In 1970 Paul's career in banking and financial services took him to Halesowen in the West Midlands. Whilst there he was enrolled in Stourbridge Catenian Circle on 13th June 1973 but a further career move in 1978 brought Paul and his family to Knutsford where he transferred to Knutsford Circle in May 1979.

Throughout his membership Paul was a committed Catenian, having many interesting letters published in Catena magazine over the years. He took the office of Vice President of Knutsford Circle in 1980, becoming President in 1981. Later he took office as Membership Officer for three years from April 1990 to March 1994, returning to do a further year in 1995.

Paul's commitment as a Catenian also extended to his long of the Catenian Golf Society which led to many happy days on the golf course and trips at home and abroad with Society Members. Paul often waxed lyrical about the trip to the famous Gleneagles resort and holidays in Majorca. Following his move to Knutsford Paul also became a keen member of Knutsford Golf Club where he spent many happy hours.

Paul was a lifelong supporter of Everton Football Club which, in his eyes, even if they lost, could do no wrong. Indeed, Teresa's suggestion on moving to the Midlands that their son Michael might support Aston Villa brought forth the horrified response "Good heavens Teresa, you might as well ask me to change my religion!" It is certainly true to say that Paul's life can be summed up perfectly by his own mantra of "One faith, one wife and one football team".

Sadly, for the last three years of his life Paul faced serious ill health, always with the greatest good humour and great fortitude. He finally succumbed on 30th October 2014 at the East Cheshire Hospice with Teresa at his Side. His Requiem Mass at St. Vincents, Knutsford was filled to capacity, giving a sure reflection of the love and esteem in which he was held both locally and in the Province.

MAY HE REST IN PEACE