

## **Charles Napier StPierre BUNBURY MBE 1941 – 2018**



**Sadly we lost Charles on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2018 after a short illness although he had not been particularly well for a couple of years.**

**Charles was an absolute gentleman with a marvellous sense of humour, one of those people that one takes to instantly. He came across as very laid back but underneath he was extremely organised and efficient.**

**He was born in February 1941, went to prep school in Derbyshire and on to Rugby where he loved his sport, particularly cricket; being a renowned leg break bowler. Charles could trace his family history back to the Norman conquest and, like his father and Grandfather, was destined for a military career. He joined as an army entrant working**

**his way up to Sandhurst where he became a Cadet Sergeant before being commissioned in The Duke of Wellington's Regiment in 1962.**

**He had a varied and interesting career in the army serving in Norway, Hong Kong, Sandhurst as an instructor (a job only given to the best), Barbados, Germany and Northern Ireland. At the height of the troubles, he was Community Liaison Officer in Londonderry in 1973 just after "Bloody Sunday" and used to go into the Bogside Provo pubs with jacket, regimental tie and dog (there was always a dog in Charles' life) to talk to and share a pint or two with the 'players', who respected him as a safe conduit for communication. For this extremely challenging and brave work he received his MBE. His senior officer of this period said of him "Charles is the epitome of what I respect most in a proper infantry officer".**

**Charles ended his career at Colchester Military Corrective Training Centre before retiring to Creeting St Mary where he took to gardening with gusto. In more recent years he moved to Playford.**

**Charles loved to go to the pub of an evening with his dog for a couple of pints and a chat, something that the rest of us will miss terribly.**

**He is survived by his wife Veronica, children Victoria and William and half sister Mel.**