

# David John Warren 1954 2012

David was born at The Green, Grundisburgh in February 1954 to Edna and Ivor Warren - a baby brother to Judy and Andrew. He was schooled across the road at Grundisburgh and later at Farlingaye in Woodbridge. His childhood weekends were spent working on his Grandfathers farm in Tuddenham alongside his brother and uncles. Aged 15, in the summer of 1969 he started working for Roy Taylor at Grove Farm Clopton, and continued under a further two generations of Taylors.

After meeting at a Country and Western dance, David became engaged to Joan at Christmas 1973 and they married at Wickham Market Church in August 1975. They were rarely apart, seen doing everything by each other's side. Moved to Thorpe Hall Cottages and began a lifelong task of moving earth around the garden. Daughter Caroline was born in the summer of 1979.

Never one to be kept inside, David loved the outdoors. Wildlife was important to him, especially the local game which he nurtured to ensure a good shoot the following season. If he happened to destroy a pheasant's nest with his combine harvester he was known to bring the eggs home in his lunch box and hatch in the incubator to rear and later release on the farm. David and Joan kept a flock of Suffolk cross sheep, starting with 12 ewes purchased from Ingham sale ground near Bury St Edmunds in 1985. The flock grew and they were able to supply lamb to family and friends.

David was passionate about his garden. Spending much of his spare time hoeing his vegetable patch and tending his plants in preparation for the kitchen and the local village shows. His achievements in this field are recorded on several cups including the Grundisburgh, Burgh & Culpho Horticultural Show Challenge Cup (for most points awarded in the flower fruit and vegetable classes) which he was awarded no less than 9 times in the last 20 years.

David was looking forward to retirement; he had spent his life gathering Classic Tractors and farm machinery and his Mini's and Morris Minors, with the intention of spending his latter years restoring them. He was a member of the Anglian Mini Club and the East Anglian Practical Classics attending meetings and events in his British Racing Green Classic Mini Cooper Sport 500 - one of the last off the production line. He enjoyed many hours in the garage with Caroline and her partner Matt working on Caroline's Mini, recently rebuilding the engine. On rare days away from the farm over the summer he visited classic car and mini shows, local and further afield with the family.

He was a wonderful teacher. Never top of the class at school, but everything he knew, he gladly shared knowledge and skills with those around him. He had many friends who often turned to him for advice on so many different subjects, of which he had knowledge of so many. He cared dearly for his wife and daughter, who were privileged to have been able to look after David whilst he was in hospital. His precious last few days were spent at home where he was able to look out onto the fields he spent his life working upon.

