

Lillian (Lily) Ellen Pearce Nov 1922 - June 2018

Lily and her twin brother Alfred were born at Clopton in November 1922. Their sister Winnie was born in December 1924. All three went to Clopton School. Lily left school aged 14 and went into service at Birds Hill Cottage, Clopton. On days off she took her family's dog for walks. One day while doing this she met Bill who later became her husband.

When war broke out Bill joined the Tank Regiment. Against her father's wishes, Lily joined the ATS in 1942, she became a Height Finder for crews of the Ack Ack Guns. In March 1944 while on leave Lily and Bill were married. When the war was over they moved into a house which went with the work Bill had taken. This was at Ipswich Road, Clopton. In December 1946 Wendy was born, followed by Dawn in March 1948 and Albert in July 1950.

Lily spent many happy years working for Mrs Kilburn at Mount Pleasant, Clopton. She and her sister also looked after their Uncle George in Ipswich. Once Lily's family had left school, she and Bill enjoyed bingo at Hasketon and Ipswich. They also enjoyed coach holidays with friends. These continued when they moved to Orchard End, Grundisburgh in 1981.

In December 1973, to the family's delight, Albert and Ally were married. In 1975 Dawn emigrated to Canada. Lily was sad at this, but discovered she enjoyed visiting Dawn, and went to Canada a few times. She and Bill were delighted when in March 1978 their grand-daughter was born. Followed in September 1980 by their grandson Barrie. They both enjoyed spending time with the children.

When in 1989 Bill died, looking after her uncle helped fill the void. Later Lily joined the local lunch club, meeting up with friends once a fortnight and enjoying trips out organised by the club.

At one time Lily enjoyed working in the garden with myself, but after having falls she could no longer do it. So I carried on for her. Eventually Lily lost her confidence in walking, and became housebound. With the help of carers going in four times a day, and myself going at weekends to do the household chores etc, she was able to stay in her home. She got on well with the carers. I often heard them chatting about her earlier life and laughing.

In 2001 Lily became a great-grandmother, when Barrie and Claire's son Rhys was born. Followed in 2008 by the arrival of a great grand-daughter. Lily was happy and enjoyed seeing them. She also enjoyed visits from family and friends, and spent time on the phone to Dawn, also talking to her cousin Brian from Germany.

Lily is greatly missed by her family and friends.

Wendy, Dawn, Albert and family wish to thank all who donated to Lily's charities. Help for Hero's, £159.50 and E.A.C.H £159.50.

Wendy Pearce.