



Obituary

Obituary— Richard. L. Liversedge 1940 – 2022

Richard Lordon Liversedge, formerly Consultant Maxillofacial Surgeon at Barnet, Edgware and the Middlesex Hospitals, died on January 19, 2022, following an illness borne with great courage and fortitude. Affectionately known to his friends and family as Dick, he was educated at Tonbridge school and then studied both Dentistry and Medicine at the London Hospital Medical College qualifying in 1963 and 1968 respectively.

His first training posts and then as a registrar, were at the London Hospital. During his years as a senior registrar between St George's, St Thomas' and Guildford Hospitals, he won the BAOMS Norman Rowe clinical prize in 1974. In 1977 he was co-author of a paper setting out the career pathways of doubly qualified oral surgeons.

Appointed Consultant Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon in 1977, his post included sessions between Barnet Hospital, Edgware General and before its closure, at the Middlesex Hospital, London.

A kind and sociable man with easy manners and a twinkle in his eye, he enjoyed the respect of his colleagues and their camaraderie as his friends. He became a popular post-graduate tutor for the hospital and held the post for many years.

His loyalty to and mutual goodwill with the local practitioners, also allowed him the privilege of a thriving practice at several private hospitals.

In 1989, I had the privilege of joining Dick and becoming consultant between Barnet and Edgware hospitals, later merged to form the Wellhouse Trust. During this time I was fortunate to enjoy his trust, loyalty, total support and friendship. In addition, we had the most perfect working relationship, which remains the envy of many contemporary colleagues.

Our junior staff training programme over the years was always well supported by Dick. He was a good mentor, kind, considerate, generous and of course fiercely loyal to all his staff.

The Wellhouse Trust had to merge with an adjacent trust in 2000, and this marked the beginnings of a strained atmosphere, in our hitherto small but effective and friendly department. Dick then chose early retirement from the enlarged NHS department but continued to enjoy working in the private sector, before finally retiring in 2012.

Liversedge was blessed with good looks, and a strong physique. He was always dapper in his range of three piece suits, with a pocket watch on a chain for his waistcoat. He was a keen sportsman who avoided publicity. And few knew he had represented his country at three Winter Olympics: at Grenoble 1968, Sapporo 1972 and Innsbruck 1976. After he stopped active competition, he served for the international Luge Medical Commission with particular regard to doping control. In this official capacity he participated in two further Olympic Games 1980 Lake Placid and 1984 Sarajevo.

Dick was very much devoted to his family. In 1972 he married Jenny Robertson, a nurse who he had met whilst at the London Hospital. They had 3 children, each of whom have achieved high status, and have their own off-spring.

We extend our heartfelt condolences to his devoted wife, his children Dominic, Annabel, Belinda and their families.

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