

Mike Barley

61 Hollins Lane,
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27th April 2020

Dear John,

It is with great sadness that we are writing to you to confirm the news and circumstances of John's death.

John had two falls at the beginning of March, both related, we learnt, to urinary tract infections (UTI) which cause weakness and confusion. The second fall ended up with him spending two days in hospital, and then being moved into 'intermediate care' at Medlock Court in Oldham. He spent the best part of four weeks there, receiving excellent care and made a slow but good recovery. Fortunately, we were able to visit him for the major part of his time there, until visiting was stopped.

Eventually, it was decided that he was well enough to return home, with a significant care package arranged for him. For two days, this seemed to be working well, and John was quite happy. But a severe UTI returned, there was another fall, and this time the very best efforts of the health care workers could not keep him at home, and he had to be hospitalised.

Sadly, we were unable to visit him, and this is the hardest thing, that his final days were spent without contact with his family. However, until those last days we cannot fault the care given to John by many agencies over a very difficult six weeks, and in such horrendous days for NHS workers.

John's funeral, lengthily delayed in the current situation, will be on May 12th. It will be very quiet, and for immediate family. We really hope that when the crisis has passed you will join us in a celebration of John's life: his long banking career, his lengthy involvement with the local Table Tennis Leagues, his Bradford friendships lasting from schooldays, and his long and prestigious association with Rotary.

Although he lived a quiet and self-contained life, John will be greatly missed by colleagues, friends and family, and we hope you will all have happy and affectionate memories of him.

Can you please communicate this information to other members of the Table Tennis Community?

With thanks,

Mike Barley

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