

David Ian Wilson

1962-2022



David was born in Birmingham and spent his childhood in the West Midlands and surrounding areas. Being the “brains” of the family, he won a scholarship to Warwick School, before going on to train at St George’s Medical school in London. He undertook his plastic surgery training in Derriford Hospital, Plymouth and then in the East Midlands, before being appointed as a consultant to the Nottingham Plastic Surgery and Burns Unit. In 2007 he moved to Birmingham to take up a consultant post in the newly opened Paediatric Burn Centre at Birmingham Children’s Hospital. He recently retired at the end of 2020.

In addition to his career as a plastic surgeon David enjoyed considerable success and made a significant contribution to the Royal Army Medical Services in his role as a doctor with Army Reserves. David took on the challenge of P Coy (selection for Airborne Forces) and successfully gained his parachute wings. He served in 144 Parachute Medical Squadron (V) as a medical officer and deployed with 23 Parachute Field Ambulance (RAMC) to Kenya and Bosnia. It came as no surprise to those that knew David that when there was a need for a surgeon to take the lead in the Field Surgical Team he volunteered. Later in his military career he was an instructor in various trauma and surgical skills courses passing on valuable skills to junior colleagues. David was a medical humanitarian at heart, and this was typified by his work in Kashmir when he volunteered to work as a doctor at the epicentre of the earthquake. David ended his military career as a Lieutenant Colonel.

David enjoyed teaching and was very involved, from the outset, in the EMSB course run by the British Burn Association. He instructed locally and throughout the country and sat on the EMSB senate.

David was known as a true gentleman, always kind and patient, willing to help and to listen to others’ woes. He had his own sense of style, with colourful bow ties and seasonal theatre headwear. He was famous for his generosity and never missed an opportunity to give a gift at birthdays, Easter and Christmas, often sharing his love of Shakespeare with tickets for RSC theatre productions. Each winter was a time to ski and every spring was celebrated with a trip to the RHS Chelsea Flower Show.

His caring, compassionate and diligent nature meant that he was highly regarded by colleagues, peers, patients and their families. David leaves behind his sister Sallie, brother Mike and sister in law Sue. Nieces Eleanor, Rachael, Kathryn, Rebecca, Nicola and nephew Robert. Ten great nephews and nieces and one great, great niece.

His loss will be felt by all who knew him.