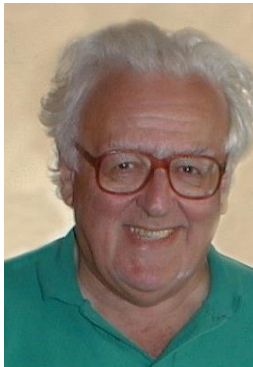


DR BRYAN ERIC HUMPHRISS

Dr Bryan Eric Humphriss, General Practitioner. Born 22nd June 1931. Qualified Liverpool 1956. Died 20th March 2021.



Bryan Humphriss was born in Woolton, a village suburb of Liverpool, and spent most of his professional life there. A General Practitioner for over thirty years he had an overriding interest in people and how he might help them.

Educated at Quarry Bank School in Liverpool, many years later he recalled a teenage trip to Pembrokeshire, to visit a family friend dying of tuberculosis in a cottage with water running down the walls, while next door the pig pen in which the man had worked had a new roof. The experience left him with a drive to see people treated fairly and help them where he could.

He became the first member of his family to attend University, qualifying from Liverpool Medical School in 1956. After house jobs at Walton Hospital and National Service, he returned to Walton as a medical registrar before moving into General Practice, joining Woolton House Surgery in 1962 and working there for the rest of his career. The Surgery provided clinical care for patients in Sunnybank, the Marie Curie Hospice, from its opening until finally relinquishing the role when full time specialists were appointed after the Hospice was rebuilt in 1992.

Bryan was an early member of the Royal College of General Practitioners and became a Fellow of the College. He was a supportive teacher and mentor. Woolton House was part of the first GP training rotation in Liverpool, established before it became a requirement, and for many years he also provided a GP perspective to medical students in formal teaching sessions in both Obstetrics and ENT.

Bryan served several terms on the Liverpool Local Medical Committee including as its Chair, and was a member of the Operational Services Group that helped commission the Royal Liverpool Hospital. He was a keen supporter of the Liverpool Medical Institution, served on its Library Committee and Council and was honoured to be the Secretary of the Institution for a year. He retired from practice in 1993.

Away from medicine his interests were many and varied. There was a lifelong interest in music and the piano. His father Eric spent over fifty years as organist and choirmaster at St Peter's, Woolton and Bryan was a sometime chorister although he was at Medical School when John Lennon joined the choir and working when Lennon met McCartney at the Youth Club Summer Fete that Eric had organised.

He learned to sail on the Mersey as a student and purchased an early Mirror dinghy which was sailed extensively in the Lake District before being replaced by slightly larger and more stable vessels until arthritis ended his participation. Arthritis also curtailed his hill walking and his golf, although the latter served its purpose for many years as a means of escape from the telephone on his half day off. A schoolboy interest in photography lasted a lifetime, but he also continued to paint and draw, learned to throw a pot and turn one and built and flew radio controlled model aircraft. His reading matter was invariably non fiction and he continued to read the BMJ throughout his retirement, maintaining a lively interest in medicine.

In the last few years of his life he and Bev, his wife for sixty years, moved to North Yorkshire to be nearer their grandchildren who he adored. He died of biliary sepsis and metastatic renal cancer after a short illness and would have been slightly embarrassed that so many who knew him have chosen to sum him up as, "A truly nice man."

David Humphriss
Son