

**Eulogy given in Lodge by W.Bro Sean Simpson. Written and presented at the funeral by Bills daughter Susanna Bittante.**

William was born in South West London in 1925, the eldest of four children, to William and Martha Moore.

He attended the local primary and senior schools, where he showed the beginnings of becoming 'quite a character'. Identified in the early days, one school report, aged 8, remarked, 'a most intelligent boy, very hard working', followed by a conduct entry of 'rather troublesome at times', not the ideal for a local church chorister. Later he attended college, on a scholarship, to study Electrical Engineering, qualified and was given an apprenticeship by a local company.

War had broken out and he found himself living away from home, and working in Suffolk on the local American Aerodromes. During this time he met Betty, a family friend and his future wife. At this time Betty was in the Woman's Royal Air Force and shortly after William signed up for the Army and was placed into the 4th/7th Royal Dragoon Guards, Tank and Armoured vehicle division together with his younger brother Peter, both destined for Palestine.

Whilst William and Betty were home on leave in 1946 they married.

William's army career came to an abrupt end when his troop train travelling through Trans-Jordan was blown up and he was brought home badly injured, to convalesce. After making a full recovery William started work as a trainee electrical engineer at London Transport, where he was to work until retirement in 1989 as Chief Electrical Engineer. He and Betty started their family when a son. William was born in October 1949, followed by a daughter, Susanna, three years later.

Fishing was a great love and he and his son 'little Bill' often spent days fishing lakes and rivers in Essex and Suffolk. Another love was Cricket where he was a member of Essex County Cricket Club for many years.

Sadly, William's wife died suddenly in 1973 after 27 years of happily married life.

He was to find happiness again when Maria came into his life and they married in 1976 and settled not far away in Shenfield.

In the early '80's William entered Freemasonry which was to become a large part of his life, rising to the highest ranks. He made many lasting friendships and gave his time willingly, especially in his position of Almoner, to the widows and children of former freemasons.

In March 1991 he was awarded the honour of the Freedom of the City of London by the Mayor of London at the Guildhall, for his services to the people of the city during his working life., This occasion was followed two months later by another major event, the birth of his granddaughter, Alessandra, whom, many will tell, he adored and never stopped talking and boasting about to anyone who would listen. Admitting that one of his proudest moments was taking her to her first Ladies Night when she was 13 years old.

When Maria died in 2007 William moved into Stisted Hall, a Masonic home near to his daughter where he lived for the last five years. He settled in rather well and made friends with the residents and staff. A character the end' he was always cheery, with a word for the ladies.

Much love and time was given to his family and when speaking of his children and grandchildren his voice was full of love and pride.

He was greatly loved in return and will be missed terribly.

A true Gentleman.