

Keith Ashworth- born 2nd Feb 1953 died 17th July 2020 aged 67 years old.

A well-travelled, adventurous man, not scared of giving anything a go. A much loved Husband, Dad, Grandad, Brother and friend to many.....

Keith Ashworth was born on the 2nd February 1953 to Kenneth and Edith Ashworth at Bealeys Maternity Home in Radcliffe. His Mother Edith and Father Kenneth then lived on Ainsworth Road in Radcliffe.

Keith went to Wesley Methodist Primary school, and then carried on to Radcliffe Secondary school before signing up to join the merchant navy, where he travelled to so many places as an engineer.

Keith then met Mary Ruth Higham and they were married on the 18th Feb 1979, at St Maxentius C of E church, Bradshaw surrounded by family and friends.

In the years 1982 and 1986 he became our dad, and for that we thank you from the bottom of our hearts dad, as we couldn't have done any better than to have you as the head of the family. Keith has 4 grandchildren- Ellie May, Owen, Annabelle and Rio. He then gained two extra members to the family Poppy and Millie which he loved so much, sharing his tea with them more often than not. He enjoyed walking them before his illnesses took hold and he was no longer able to do so.

Throughout Dad's life he had been so active, building the family house, extending it to accommodate the growing family. I remember climbing up the ladder to join him on the roof, when he was in the middle of roofing, and pulling cars apart and putting them back together. He came with me when I bought my first 4 wheel jeep. We were invited down to Luton for the day, to Test drive and take the new Frontera off road, what an experience that was.

Another experience, which mum got for him was taking the then new X3 and X5 cars off road in Cheshire, through waterfalls, down muddy embankments, on two wheels. He loved it.

I will always remember whilst we were extending our house we hired a mini digger to dig out the foundations, and he came round to have a go.....

He enjoyed his travelling going to some fantastic places including a cruise up to see the northern lights, Florida, Cyprus, South Carolina, Malta, Lanzarote plus many more whilst he was in the navy. As we were growing up we would holiday in our touring caravan, most of the time in this country but on a couple of occasions we ventured across the English channel and went camping in France,

He started to work at Heysham power station, after leaving the navy, where he worked until both Mum and Dad decided he needed a job nearer home, so he started working at Park cakes bakery on St Helens Road in Bolton, and he worked shifts there. Every Christmas he would come home with a

box of goodies ranging from all different cakes, which didn't last long in our house, between us.

He taught me to drive, as I was moved to different shops around Bolton and the surrounding areas I would drive there and Dad would then drive to meet me when I had finished work and I would then drive home, I am proud to say, with his help I passed my Theory and Practical tests first time, thanks largely to him.

Whilst growing up we would spend our Friday nights up at Delph sailing club, where we learnt to sail.

After stints in the baking industry, he got a job as an engineer at Salford Royal hospital, which is where he worked until he retired approx. 6 years ago.

At the age of 40 he was diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes, which was a major life changing event for dad, Then after his retirement approx. 6 years ago he underwent a life changing operation when he had a triple heart bypass, at Manchester Royal Infirmary. Last year it was found he had ulcers on his right toes, which meant to stop the spread he had them amputated. Regrettably the wound did not heal which resulted in his leg amputation at the beginning of this year.

He enjoyed his retirement by spending time up at the caravan at Ocean edge Heysham. He would often take himself up there for days, sometimes weeks, leaving mum at home if he had no appointments. He would spend his days up at the caravan pottering about painting, mowing the

lawns, sitting on the decking talking to people as they passed by.

He also took to designing and building his own hovercraft, which he managed to drive on a few occasions. He loved watching cooking programmes on the Tv and often tried and tested them out on mum, and sometimes the dogs.

Dad enjoyed a good BBQ and taught me how to cook on the BBQ at a young age and my test was to cook for him I was then issued with a certificate.

He enjoyed having his grandchildren around, he loved baking and giving his orders to Mum can you get this ingredient, even during the Pandemic he was giving his orders for Colin to buy this and that for cooking. He loved experimenting with foods, and cooking on the BBQ, we did a lot of this whilst on holiday in the caravan, On one occasion he was caught pulling moonies whilst cooking with Bill.

I have lots of memories that I will keep and treasure forever, We all love you dad, and you will never be forgotten, you will always be in our hearts, in our souls, god bless you,

Love you with all our heart Dad, till we meet again.

