

## **Bill Denyer 1930 - 2011**

Bill's funeral, at St Nicholas, was attended by his family, friends and members of our congregation – some of whom had known him for many years. As Fr Patrick noted in his homily, Bill was already worshipping at St Nicholas when he had come as vicar to Chiswick more than 30 years ago. !

Bill died on 14<sup>th</sup> July 2011 – his cancer had returned and spread so aggressively that treatment was not an option. His last days, when he was in some pain and discomfort, were spent at home with the support of Pam and members of his numerous family.

So often it's observed that we only find out about people's varied lives at their funerals (which seems a pity) and so it was with Bill, and we are grateful for the comprehensive account of his life which was given in a eulogy by his son David (aided by his grand daughter Layla and grandson Thomas). David kindly gave the magazine editor a copy and it is summarised here.

Bill left school at 14 to work in a butcher's shop, then as porter at the old Brentford Market near Kew Bridge. He briefly worked in the 'cinemation' industry, then trained as a vacuum cleaner salesman while he worked at Derry & Tom's and Barkers at weekends. Pam and Bill lived in Norfolk for a while before moving back to Pam's family home in Chiswick.

Then Bill was offered a job helping to build bowling alleys. This led to the offer of a job to install a cinema and bowling alley complex in Aden, where he moved with Pam and his two young sons. When they returned to England there was a third son and a few months later their daughter was born.

Work at this time was scarce so Bill became a driver for Bulmer's Cider. This was followed by a job with British Airways. Cheap staff flights enabled Bill to indulge his love of travel. After that he became an audio-visual engineer for Rank, travelling the country servicing and installing equipment in Odeon cinemas and Mecca bingo halls. This was a period he loved, working with his team of engineers, and often attending premiers at Leicester Square or Marble Arch Odeon.

Eventually he retired, with Pam, to Crowthorne. He maintained his links with St Nicholas to which had given so much service, as server, Master of Ceremonies and as Church Warden for some years, while Pam sang with the choir and served as sacristan. Even after the move they regularly travelled up to Chiswick to assist at our services, with Pam continuing as sacristan for some considerable time.

Farewell Bill and thank you for all you did for our church down the years.