

**OBITUARY - JACK HART****1931—2004***Jack with his beloved wife, Ann***A Tribute by Martin Bogard**

I have known Jack for many years and when I first met him I was a very young man. At that time Jack brought his lovely wife Ann with his two little sons, Mark and Simeon, to the Jewish Deaf Association at Cazenove Road. I have never forgotten how he treated his family with respect and how he nurtured his sons' education and encouraged them to become more knowledgeable. They eventually went to Burwood Park School.

Many years ago, Jack was involved with the Jewish Deaf Youth and was also a member of the JDA Central Committee. He supported the British Jewish Deaf Sports Organisation in the exchange with Israel and other events, in which he worked along with his sons Mark and Simeon - who became the Chairman of the BJDSO.

In spite of being a very busy man, he never let us down. Jack was one of the Central Committee Trustees and he was awarded the honour of JDA Life Membership last September. Sadly, this lasted only for a short period. His name will always be treasured in our JDA memories.

I have always said that I have never come across a man who took such totally different kind of trades for his living. He was an experienced tailor for several years and then became a skilled carpenter! Long before he became ill, he trained as a BSL Stage 2 tutor. Many hearing students have told me how wonderful Jack was and have admired him greatly.

Some years ago, Jack wanted to purchase a computer to help with his work, etc. Naturally I taught him some basic lessons. To my amazement, he picked them up very quickly and learned many new things by himself, which was remarkable for his age. I was fortunate to become a very good friend of Jack and I also benefited from his knowledge by learning more about photography and building work skills.

Heidi and I were so pleased to have Jack and Ann at our wedding in Germany. That was when they set their feet on German soil for the very first time and they enjoyed themselves very much.

Heidi and I really miss dear Jack. May his soul rest in peace.

We wish Ann, Mark and Simeon a "long life".

**JACK HART – A MAN I WILL REMEMBER ALWAYS****by Sue Cipin**

When I first arrived at the JDA, I was welcomed with warmth by so many of the members ... but there was one man who made me feel just a little bit nervous - Jack Hart. Everyone said the same thing about Jack - that he was a great man, respected and admired by one and all. I wanted to get to know him, but the opportunity never seemed to arise. I started to wonder if he deliberately kept away from me.

A year later, the JDA organised a short holiday to The New Ambassador Hotel in Bournemouth. It was then that I got my chance! We enjoyed a wonderful few days and Jack and I broke the ice.

I found that behind the strong face I had always wondered about was, indeed, a strong man. But there was much more to Jack than strength - in him I found a warm, interesting, highly intelligent person with many stories to tell and lessons to teach. Once I got to know Jack, I wanted to know more and more! He told me about his life, about the history of Deaf people, the establishment and development of the Jewish Deaf Community, politics, geography, nature, philosophy ... he shared stories about his family, his experiences and he educated me.

I found he was a man who knew how to love and devote himself to his wife and family. He absolutely adored Ann and when she was with him his love for her sparkled like sunshine through his smile.

Jack proved that he judged people carefully before giving them his trust. I needed his tuition ... and he had always known that. But he had needed to know that I was worthy of it *before* giving it to me. I felt proud knowing that Jack considered me worthy of his tutorship and I did my best to live up to this.

Jack was a man of wisdom, integrity and great worth. It was an enormous privilege to know him and to have earned his friendship. He will always live on in my memory, with admiration and love.