

## MAURICE GILKES (1926–2008)



Maurice Gilkes – Modge as he came to be known – was born in Banbury in 1926, one of a family of 13 children. He left St Mary’s School in Banbury at the age of 14 to go into the family building firm as a bricklayer, like his father. Having completed National Service in Egypt with the King’s Royal regiment, in 1949 Modge began a long and happy marriage to Pam Doggett.

They lived first in Clifton with Pam’s parents, but eventually moved to Deddington with daughter Lorraine, living first in the Tchure and then in Mackley Close. When the Gilkes firm was sold, Modge became caretaker at the Windmill Centre. Modge had a great love and knowledge of sport and a talent for drawing, but his greatest satisfaction lay in his family and friends, and in offering a helping hand to anyone who might need it.

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