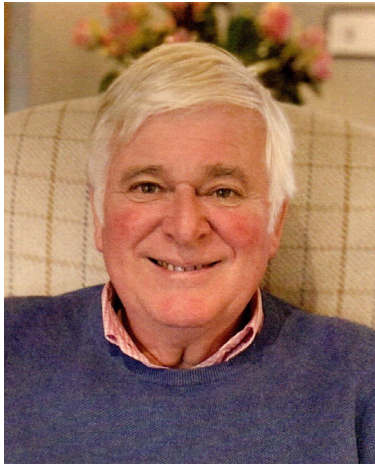


SIMON TIMOTHY WOOD 1952–2026



Simon was born in Bedford on 26 March 1952 to Derek and Denise, the eldest of four alongside Jeremy, Hilary and Anna. He built a successful career in the pub and restaurant industry, holding a number of senior roles, including managing director of Beefeater at Whitbread, followed by a series of non-executive positions. He had a natural gift for bringing people together and food, drink and music were always at the heart of his life. He was known for his warmth, humour, fun and generosity.

Simon married Sheila in 1991 and they moved to Deddington in 1994 and later that year their daughter, Alice, was born. He was a loving husband, father and father-in-law to Anthony. One of Simon's proudest moments was walking Alice down the aisle in Deddington church in October 2024, despite struggling with poor health.

A valued member of the community, Simon supported fundraising events for Deddington Youth Club and, in earlier years when he was in good health, helped mow the churchyard. He also served as chairman of the governors at Bloxham School.

In November 2020 Simon was diagnosed with motor neurone disease. In April 2025 his family hosted a concert at Deddington church to raise vital funds for the MND Association raising over £20,000. He faced this cruel illness with remarkable dignity and courage and passed peacefully at home on 2 February 2026.

Simon will be greatly missed by his family and his many wonderful friends in the village and beyond. The family remains committed to fundraising for the MND Association in the hope that one day there will be a cure.

Sheila and Alice Wood

