

JOHN GRAFTON TEMPLE SMITH 1923–2010

John was born in London, the eldest of two boys. After prep school he went to Bryanston School in Dorset. On leaving he joined the RAF, and went to Oxford University where he completed his studies in half the time it normally took. He became a test pilot in Canada during the Second World War and on returning to civilian life his aim was to get into the film industry. This was not easy as a union card was needed. So to obtain this, John acted in, produced and edited his first film. This got him started and he went on to produce documentaries and later feature films. He married Maureen Anne in January 1948 in Marylebone Church and they had two children, Nicholas and Sarah, followed by three grandchildren. They celebrated 62 years of married life earlier this year.

They moved to Hempton in 1985 and John particularly enjoyed the country life, which was perhaps surprising as he was a city man. He enjoyed holidays in France, where he went many times. He joined the village Church and became a member, committee man and secretary of the Friends of the Church, positions he only gave up during the last year. It was mainly his idea to restore the proposed new doors to the Gothic arches. John had strong views about things but he always put them over in a nice way. A Thanksgiving Service was held recently in St John's Church with a full congregation of family and friends. He will be sadly missed by all who knew him.

Les Chappell