**Dave Wilson 1949 - 2006**

**When someone dies we often say how we cannot imagine the world without them, and while well intentioned it isn’t always quite true. But in the case of Dave Wilson, whose sudden and unexpected death on September 14th has shocked us all, it is absolutely so.**

**Dave’s involvement with Epsom and Ewell F.C. dates back to 1971 when he answered a newspaper advertisement for a reserve team secretary. It was a post he was to hold for more than 20 years while gradually, and happily, accumulating more jobs across the club spectrum. He added the titles youth team secretary, press officer and programme editor before becoming club secretary in 1983. He also gathered friends beyond the club through his regular attendance at various and considerable league meetings. Dave hardly missed a match for either 1st team, reserves or youth, and could be seen planting out the corner flags before the game and gathering the footballs together at the end. For years he washed the kit.**

**On Wednesday evening of the 13th after a youth team fixture he collapsed in the boardroom, suffering a massive stroke and was taken to Epsom hospital where he died the following afternoon. He was 56. Dave is survived by his mother, Joyce, and sister Debbie. Our thoughts are with his family at this difficult and miserable time.**

**I met Dave around 1973 when I first went to West Street to watch a match. Six years later I joined the committee and began to help him write the match day programmes. Ever since I have worked in tandem with Dave to produce these and liase with the various contributors. Over the years we became sound friends, Dave regularly driving me (a non-driver) to away fixtures. Hardly a week has passed that we haven’t had some kind of communication about club matters, and it seems both extraordinary and dreadful that he is no longer here. It was a pleasure knowing him.**

**Anyone who has ever pulled on an Epsom shirt or cheered the team in the last 30 years has reason to be grateful to Dave and for many of us now Epsom’s flag will always symbolically fly at half-mast.**

**Stella Lamont**

**President, Epsom & Ewell F.C.**

**I can’t remember exactly when I first met Dave but it must have been in the early seventies when I started watching the E’s.**

**They were heady times, with the club enjoying success and a feeling of “something happening” was about the club. Those in the club made sure that the social life was successful as well, spending many a good time in the old clubhouse and in the Oriental Rendezvous for something to eat afterwards. Of course at the time none of us knew what the future held in store for us and little was I to know that Dave would become a wonderful friend and colleague.**

**When thinking about someone who is no longer with us, sometimes it is only the favourable aspects that the memory recalls. In Dave’s case, everything that comes to mind is favourable. I have been thinking almost non stop about Dave these last ten days or so and I’m now starting to realise how irreplaceable Dave will be as a friend, first and foremost, and as club secretary secondly. He was such an easy going guy, who had time for everyone and anyone.**

**I can remember rounds of golf, games of cricket, folk festivals, parties, nights at the pub and umpteen sit down curries, all enriched by Dave’s company.**

**There have been some wonderful words posted about Dave on our website and I wouldn’t mind betting that he would have felt a touch embarrassed by people’s feelings towards him if he was around now. This is the type of bloke he was – never one for looking for angles or any personal profit, just for doing what he did for the benefit of our club and the people within it.**

**These few words from me will never be able to fully illustrate the feeling and respect that I had for Dave.**

**May you rest in peace.**

**Pete Lumm**

**Chairman, Epsom & Ewell F.C.**

**It is a very sad day with the news of the passing of a dedicated person who was passionate in making things behind the scenes seem to run like clockwork on match days. The loss of Dave will affect everyone at the club and leaves an empty void in the committee room as he was a committed, dedicated and passionate match and club secretary and he will be missed greatly. Dave was respected by all visiting club, league and match officials that visited West Street and Merland Rise.**

**Robert Oakes**

**Treasurer, Webmaster & Child Welfare Officer, Epsom & Ewell F.C.**

**There are many hardworking people that contribute varying amounts into the running of the club and indeed small clubs across the land. Club secretaries are generally the hardest working people at football clubs. Without them, clubs would not function and as a result, there would be no football.**

**Dave Wilson has always been involved in Epsom & Ewell in the 30 plus years that I have been supporting the club. He carried out many obvious visual tasks and many more behind the scenes.**

**In common with all other clubs many people contribute the running of the club, but the club functioned because of Dave's massive contribution. I think it's fair to say that Dave Wilson was Mr. Epsom & Ewell Football Club. Dave's passing leaves a massive hole to be filled.**

**We owe it to Dave and others who have served the club so magnificently over the years to build a new stadium and a club fit for their memory.**

**Nigel Pond**

**Committee Member, Epsom & Ewell F.C.**

**As the current acting manager I would like to pass on my condolences to Dave’s family. He was a true gentleman and a great organiser his dedication to Epsom & Ewell was second to none. I personally will miss him hugely the place will not be the same without him.**

**Rest in peace Dave we will never forget you**

**Peter Augustine**

**First XI Caretaker Manager, Epsom & Ewell F.C.**

**As the club captain I would like to pass my condolences to Dave's family. I always remember Dave coming to my house to sign me on when I first joined Epsom many years ago. If I wanted to know anything or needed any guidance I would always ask Dave because he knew the club more than anyone. Dave will be sorely missed by myself and all the other lads. Lets hope we can now climb up the leagues, get our own ground and get back to where this club belongs when Dave first come here, and maybe name a stand or something after him. I'm sure Dave would love that.**

**Dale Marvell**

**1st XI Captain, Epsom & Ewell F.C.**

**Like most supporters, Dave’s tenure at the club predates us, even those who joined in the successful times of the mid-seventies. It would be difficult to imagine any club having to cope with the enormous void he has left, but this is particularly difficult at a club like ours, where there are only a handful of people that carry out the day to day activities.**

**It is important, now more so than ever, that this club puts additional efforts into realising its ambition of a new ground, which Dave was as keen to see as any other supporter. Only then will we be able to relax, looking towards the Dave Wilson stand that would be a fitting monument and memory to his services over nearly 35 years.**

**Richard Lambert**

**Supporter, Epsom & Ewell F.C.**

**I'm struggling to take in the incredibly sad news re Dave. It must be a terrible shock to everyone at the club and it goes without saying we all need to help each other out now as much as we can.**

**You could fill several entire books with the massive, massive contribution Dave has made to our club over many many years and he will leave a huge void. In an age where it is commonplace to knock football and football people I always think of people at the grass roots of the game who give their entire lives in voluntary effort to keep clubs going.**

**No matter what the task Dave would do it uncomplaining, washing kit, giving players lifts and all the many and varied paperwork of being the secretary. He was a real gentleman and I can never recall seeing him lose his temper, despite how frustrating watching the E's can get at times. So many people have got so much to thank this man for.**

**There is a huge loss that feels incredibly sad at the moment, but Dave's life of giving and service to his community is one that should be truly celebrated. We must mark it with naming a part of the new ground after him. He truly was one of the very best.**

**I hate using the past tense about someone who has so recently gone and who we were talking to just like normal only minutes before he died.**

**Steve Dyke**

**Supporter, Epsom & Ewell F.C.**

**I was shocked and upset to hear about Dave. I have known him for over 25 years and it will never be the same coming to Epsom and Ewell.**

**Mark Wood**

**Assistant County Secretary, Surrey County FA**

**I should like to add my condolences to those of Mark. The tragic news was a great shock to all of us.**

**Ray Ward**

**County Secretary, Surrey County FA**

**The Management Committee of the combined counties football league express our deepest sympathy to the family of Dave, and to all at Epsom & Ewell football Club. Although the club had only recently joined us many of us knew Dave over a great many years he was as they say Mr. ‘Epsom & Ewell’. Both the family and the club have suffered the loss of an extremely well respected and hardworking individual who in addition was a complete gentleman at all times and under whatever circumstances. It is a very sad loss for Football, and more so to his family.**

**All clubs in this league will observe a minutes silence as a mark of respect to Dave at all fixtures they are concerned in this weekend.**

**Combined Counties Football League Statement**

**I offer the club my sincere condolences and of course to Dave’s family. I have known Dave for a very long time, I am saddened and shocked as all of us are to hear the news**

**Les Pharo**

**General Secretary, Combined Counties Football League**

**Like everyone else in our football community, I am desperately shocked and saddened to hear of Dave's death. He was always so helpful and a really nice person and I would like to express both mine and Ashford Town's deepest sympathies to Dave's family and to everyone at Epsom & Ewell.**

**Alan Constable**

**Secretary, Ashford Town (Middx) F.C. & Fixtures Secretary, Combined Counties Football League**

**Just want to say a very sad day not only for Epsom & Ewell FC, but football in general, one of the nicest bloke you could wish to meet at a football club, he will be sorely missed, deepest condolences to Dave's Family.**

**Colin Knight**

**Fines Secretary, Combined Counties Football League**

**Very sad for your Club and Football that David has passed away. Our thoughts are with David’s family and all of you connected with the Club. We have organized “ONE MINUTES SILENCE” at all our Suburban League Games on Saturday in a mark of respect to David**

**Michael Bidmead**

**Chief Executive, Suburban League**

**Dave had been a long servant to football through his involvement with Epsom & Ewell FC and the Southern Youth League. Dave was a life vice president of the Southern Youth League since the start of the 1998-1999 season. A one minutes silence will be observed before all SYL matches next week as a sign of respect.**

**Southern Youth League statement**

**Dave Wilson really did encompass all that is good about Epsom & Ewell Football Club. His love for the club was infectious and the day I signed he made it clear through his enthusiasm that this was a club of integrity and tradition and one that I should be honoured to represent. He was always around helping the club, whether it would be at training, a match or coming round your house to sign you before the first match of the season.**

**Dave loved the club, that was clear, and for that we should love and respect his contribution in return. He will be deeply missed by all concerned with the club, unfortunately I can not play at the moment but when I next pull on that Epsom number 1 shirt I shall not only be representing the club but also playing in honour of an irreplaceable man. Thanks for all you have done Dave, I am sure you will be looking over every ground we play in!! Rest in Peace.**

**Stuart Millard**

**Player, Epsom & Ewell F.C.**

**So very shocked, like others, to hear the very sad news about Dave, a fantastic bloke. Very difficult to know what to say at this time. I would like to pass on my own personal condolences, and those of Banstead Athletic FC, to Dave's family, friends and everyone connected with Epsom & Ewell FC.**

**Graeme Banyard**

**Manager, Banstead Athletic F.C.**

**He will be greatly missed in the football scenes, we at Camberley have had good times with him at Epsom & Ewell over the past decade.**

**Ian Waldren**

**Chairman, Camberley Town F.C.**

**Terrible News. Everybody at Raynes Park Vale Football Club wish to offer their heartfelt commiserations to David's family and friends and, of course, everyone at Epsom & Ewell FC. A sad day.**

**Christopher Clapham**

**Press Secretary, Raynes Park Vale F.C.**

**Words cannot describe the emotions we are feeling at Croydon Football Club after hearing the sad news of David's passing.**

**It was only last week that me and Dickson had been at Epsom watching the Youth team match against Colliers Wood and David, being the gentleman that he always was, invited us into the boardroom for refreshments and a chat at half-time. David was a firm believer in making time for others even if he had a hectic workload and it was his approachable manner that made him so popular with all that met him.**

**David was a highly respected figure in local non-league football and it was his love of Epsom & Ewell which saw him dedicate almost all of his time to the day to day running of the club and I am sure the club will be devastated by the loss of such a great man.**

**On behalf of everyone at Croydon FC , we would like to send our condolences to his family and friends at this sad time.**

**Steve Hutson**

**Secretary, Croydon FC**

**As someone that has played for Epsom, I would just like to pay my respects to Dave and send my thoughts to his family at this time.**

**Dave was a lovely man and a true gentleman in the non league game, I have the greatest of respect for what Dave done for the club and community his presence on match days will be sorely missed.**

**Let’s hope you boys can win this coming weekend for Dave.**

**Andy Briant**

**Player, Chessington & Hook United F.C.**

**We at Staines Lammas FC would like to express our sadness at the sudden death of Dave Wilson. Although our two clubs have never met, the Combined Counties League is very much it’s own community and we recognise the work that Dave has put in to Epsom & Ewell FC over the years and this is a great loss not only to his family, but to your club and to football as a whole.**

**Our deepest sympathies go to Dave’s family and to everybody at Epsom & Ewell F.C.**

**Clive Robertson**

**Staines Lammas F.C.**

**Please send my condolences to his family. I have known Dave for 20 years and I have never found anyone have a bad thing to say about him. It is truly a shock.**

**Barrie Funnell**

**Supporter, Camberley Town F.C.**

**I was saddened to hear the news about David**

**On my numerous visits to Merland Rise to referee or line Epsom & Ewell fixtures I always found David to be a knowledgeable, kind and social host and I will miss him dearly**

**Condolences to his family and to the club**

**Barrie Gale**

**Match Official**

**I'm very very saddened to hear about Dave, he was a great bloke and he was Mr Epsom & Ewell without a shadow of a doubt. I know I speak on behalf of a few of the boys that also left when I did, but we are all very shocked by what has happened & all send our deepest sympathies. That Includes myself, Adam Stones, Chad Heuston and Andy Davidson. If you could pass our condolences onto his family that would be much appreciated.**

**Nick Williams**

**Player, Raynes Park Vale F.C.**

**I am very shocked and saddened to hear the news on Dave. Throughout my time at Epsom & Ewell he was always around at training and matches, always helping out and making sure everything run smoothly, he was a real asset to the club.**

**Dave was a great bloke and I would like to take this opportunity to pass on my condolences to Dave's family and close one's, he will be hugely missed.**

**Adam Stones**

**Player, Raynes Park Vale F.C.**

**Egham Town Football Club and all of our members wish to send our deepest sympathies to, Dave's family and all his friends and colleagues associated with him at Epsom and Ewell Football Club on this sad occasion.**

**With Respect**

**Beverley Godzisz**

**Egham Town F.C.**

**On behalf of everyone at Hartley Wintney FC please accept our condolences on the death of David. Please pass on our sympathies to his family.**

**Luke Mullen**

**Acting Chairman, Hartley Wintney F.C.**

**Just heard the awful news about Dave and I'd like to send condolences from myself and my wife. I didn't know Dave very well at all, to be honest, but I knew that he was one of the good guys, I never ever heard a bad word said about him. He will be greatly missed by everybody in non-league football.**

**Robert Wooldridge**

**Assistant Secretary, Kingstonian FC**

**I was shocked to hear the news yesterday and can only pass on my sincere condolences to Dave’s family. Will be a great loss both to the football club and the many friends he had within the game.**

**Dave Hyatt**

**Former Epsom & Ewell F.C. Player**

**As a former player of Epsom & Ewell, I was shocked and saddened by the news. I'd like to pay my respects to Dave and send my condolences to his family and all at Epsom & Ewell. It goes to show what a great man he was when you read all the messages above. Irreplaceable**

**Ben McCarthy**

**Former Epsom & Ewell F.C. Player**

**Having heard the terrible news about Dave earlier today I would like to pass my condolences onto his family and all members at Epsom & Ewell who I know.**

**I cannot say enough about what Dave or "Whiz" has done for the football club since I first joined in 1998, from arranging everything from matches down to making sure the changing rooms were locked after a cold Monday night game, and even the odd curry night at the Savar.**

**In short, Dave was " Mr Epsom and Ewell FC"**

**Malcolm Edwards (Long Ball Lenny)**

**Former Epsom & Ewell F.C. player and former Reserve Team Manager**

**Like anyone else who had any dealings with Dave I am lost for words. He was a true gentleman and always made time for everybody. Going to Epsom & Ewell will never be quite the same. My condolences to Dave's family and friends of who I am sure there are many.**

**Andy Woodruff**

**Match Official**

**We were very shocked and saddened to hear of the sad news of Dave's sudden death. Dave was a very hard working guy, not only for Epsom & Ewell F.C. but for all areas of non league football. It was a pleasure to work with Dave over the years that I knew him, as it was for Ali as secretary to secretary.**

**Please pass on our condolences to his Family.**

**Pete Atkins**

**Former Epsom & Ewell F.C. Chairman**

**On behalf of Camberley Town FC I would like to send our condolences to Dave's family and the Club. I had known Dave for the past ten years through being on the committee at Camberley and found him a very knowledgeable and approachable man. He was well respected throughout the non-league circuit and will be a great loss to all of us**

**Andy Vaughan**

**Programme & website Editor, Camberley Town F.C.**

**We were very sorry to receive the sad news about Dave Wilson. Lewes Football Club would like to send commiserations to Epsom & Ewell FC and especially to Dave's family regarding his sad death at such an early age. There are not enough people prepared to give up their time to youth football and we are sure that Dave will be much missed.**

**Steve Ibbitson**

**Lewes F.C.**

**Still in shock about the awful news. Dave was a top bloke, and a superb secretary. As many have already said, he always had time for you, despite the incredible amount of work he was doing behind the scenes. He certainly helped me out a lot whilst I was finding my way as Secretary and Youth Team Secretary at Croydon FC. He will be sadly missed.**

**Please pass on my condolences to Dave's family, and all at Epsom & Ewell.**

**Gordon Tennant**

**Former Secretary, Croydon F.C.**

**Please pass on my condolences to Dave's family at this terrible time. He was an outstanding Secretary and a true gentlemen. He was professional, courteous and hospitable at all times and he was always a pleasure to deal with.**

**Over my years as Reserve Team Secretary at Bracknell Town and a subsequent short spell as Club Secretary at Egham Town he was a real friend to me and his loss will be keenly felt through the game at our level.**

**Gareth Coates**

**Supporter of non-league football**

**I don't know how many years, or is it decades, I have known Dave so find it very hard to believe our football will have to continue without him. Although his and my club have been rivals and have done their best to do their worse to each other on the park dozens of times in the past, I must say that from a perspective sighted on the other side of the spectator barrier, I could not find a more fair, accommodating and friendly character.**

**They say that no one person is indispensable, but there will be a gaping hole at Epsom & Ewell FC that will take a long, long time to fill. A big loss to his club, also to all other football lovers who appreciate what sportsmanship and fraternity is all about. Shock and sadness are inadequate words under the circumstances.**

**Chris Gay**

**Secretary, Chertsey Town F.C.**

**Shocked and deeply saddened by the news of Dave’s death. Have known Dave for over 20 years during which time you would never wish to meet a more sincere and honest bloke such as Dave. Dave’s commitment and dedication to the cause of Epsom & Ewell FC epitomised all the great things that non-league football represents. A true stalwart, legend of EEFC for whom I have the utmost respect. Rest in peace Dave.**

**Ray Purvis**

**Former Epsom & Ewell Player and Manager**

**I am very shocked and saddened at the sudden death of Dave.I have known him for over 20 years as a match official and have always found him to be a fair, honourable and honest man. He was always courteous and consistently treated officials with a great deal of respect. A true gentleman. Dave will be greatly missed. My condolences to Dave's family at this very sad time.**

**Paul Maskell**

**Match Official**

**We at Bracknell Town Football Club were all shocked and saddened by the news of Dave's sudden death. Even though we find ourselves in different divisions now, our two clubs have met on many occasions, and always found Dave a true gentleman, and he will be greatly missed.**

**Our deepest sympathies go to Dave's family and everyone at Epsom & Ewell Football Club.**

**Rob Scully**

**Programme Editor, Bracknell Town F.C.**

**Heard the very sad news this morning, a loss to the game of a true upstanding gentleman. My thoughts are with his family.**

**God bless Dave**

**Paul Burton**

**Match official**

**I first met Dave over 30 years ago and was struck then by his enthusiasm for and knowledge of non league football and, in particular, his beloved Epsom & Ewell.**

**Having moved from the area I haven’t seen him or spoken to him for 10 years. Nevertheless the news of his passing is a tremendous shock and I feel a huge loss. I would like to offer my condolences to his family and all at the club.**

**Tony Thornton**

**Former committee member, Epsom & Ewell F.C.**

**I am both shocked and saddened having only heard today of the sad passing of one of footballs 'elite ambassadors' Dave Wilson. I have known Dave for many years and he was one of the most charming club officials that you could ever meet. He was always on hand to help in anyway that he could and whenever we played Epsom & Ewell he always had a smile on his face, win, lose or draw, and would always be most welcoming in the boardroom afterwards. A giant in non-league football who had Epsom & Ewell FC running through his veins. His sudden passing is a tragic loss to football and to Epsom & Ewell Football Club. I would like to offer both my personal condolences and those of the Directors, Officials, Management and Players of Croydon Athletic FC, to Dave's family and to everyone at Epsom & Ewell Football Club. He will be sadly missed, but never forgotten.**

**Dean Fisher**

**Chairman, Croydon Athletic F.C.**

**I am absolutely devastated to hear the very sad news about Dave. I was the referee for the Epsom & Ewell v Ashford Town (Middlesex) SYL game and it is hard to take in that Dave was in the changing room at the end of the game chatting about the young talent playing for the youth team before he added his usual “see you in the bar when you are ready for a pint and some nosh,” and now he is gone. Despite being an ex-Southern League man I had got to know Dave over the last 15-20 years through the Suburban and Southern Youth Leagues and always enjoyed his company as he was one of football’s “good guys.” . It is a very sad loss to the game. I offer my sincerest condolences to Dave’s family and all at the club.**

**Gareth Mays**

**Match Official**

**Dave Wilson was someone held in the highest regard by all that knew him and I cannot imagine the E's without his presence. Kind and affable, the void left by Dave will never be filled and he will always be missed. I can only pass on my condolences to his family and those close to him. Thank you for all your help and support Dave you were a true gentleman. Rest in Peace.**

**Ross Shoefield**

**Player Horsham YMCA F.C.**

**I heard the sad news this morning when arriving at Wembley FC to officiate a match.**

**My sincere condolences go out to Dave's family and the club. I met Dave for the first time this seasons and he made me feel very welcome at your club.**

**Wayne Ingram**

**Match Official**

**I was very shocked like everyone else at the sudden and unexpected passing of Dave Wilson. He must have been the most dedicated person towards the club and the game he so loved that I have ever known. Epsom and Ewell FC and indeed all the football clubs that Dave was involved with now and in the past will miss him massively, not just now but in the future.**

**Dave was always around with a funny joke or anecdote about the game he loved, he always had a kind word to say to my son Arnold on match days which Arnold loved of course.**

**It is impossible to replace someone like Dave he was a one off brilliant guy. I hope we as a club try to achieve what he truly wanted a ground to play on which is our own, and a happy club which can be successful at a senior non-league level.**

**Please pass on my sympathies to Dave's family.**

**God bless you Dave Wilson**

**Jeff Pye**

**Supporter, Epsom & Ewell F.C.**

**I was shocked and saddened by the news of Dave's death last week. I'd like to pay my respects to Dave and send my condolences to his family and all connected with Epsom & Ewell FC. A true gentleman who gave so much to Epsom & Ewell FC and will be greatly missed by many. Rest in Peace**

**Chris Fossey**

**Epsom & Ewell F.C.**

**We were very shocked and saddened to hear of Wizzos passing. Having worked with him for 17 years I know of no one that had a bad word to say about him. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him, especially all of us at NBAD. Hope they have beer and curries up there. Deepest sympathy to all his family and friends. which there are many. RIP.**

**John Urban and Bruce Kimble**

**National Bank of Abu Dhabi London Branch**

**I was stunned to hear of Dave's sad, sad passing.**

**Over the 25 years I've been watching Epsom & Ewell, on and off, Dave was always there.**

**He always showed his natural warmth and absolute respect of others, even towards me when I was only a kid coming to watch the games.**

**Having also had the pleasure of spending time with Dave at the Cambridge folk Festival in past years as well being at the football, his company was always enjoyable and rewarding.**

**He will be missed more than it's possible to explain in a few words.**

**John & Tom Steinmetz**

**Epsom & Ewell F.C. Supporters**

**I would like to send my sincere condolences to Dave's family. I am in total shock, as I spent a fare bit of time with him as he taxied me around the various meetings and A.G.M's that us Secretary's love so much. He was always some one who was very helpful, checking the Epsom archives for me at various times and on one occasion that a game was called off when I was at Corinthian Casuals, he called me straight away as he knew my team Grimsby were playing at Wimbledon and I was hoping to go in this scenario. I really hope Epsom go on and reclaim there Ryman League place and get a ground, as they are always the warmest and friendliest club I have encountered in my 9 years involvement with Ryman League football, and a big part of that was Dave.**

**Rob Cavallini**

**Club Secretary, Croydon Athletic F.C.**

**I have just learned about the sudden passing of Dave and it is very sad news. Please pass on my condolences to everyone at the Club and to his family.**

**Chris Grayling**

**Epsom & Ewell MP**

**I knew Dave for 25 years and he was always friendly, honest and knowledgeable. An excellent administrator and a good football man he was always ready to help and advise if asked.**

**He was Mr Epsom and Ewell to many of us who knew him and he will be missed greatly. Molesey FC expresses its' sympathies to Dave's closest friends and family.**

**Pete Bowers**

**Chairman, Molesey FC**

**I was a shocked to hear of the passing of Dave Wilson, I would like to add my condolences.**

**My thoughts are with Dave's family and friends on this very sad occasion.**

**Bob Frankland aka The Old Man**

**I have know Dave for all the 25+ years I have been a referee. It is a little known fact that Dave too, was a referee. He was a 'lino' to me on several occasions over the years. Dave was the consummate gentlemen and football was a passion that burned bright within him. Epsom & Ewell FC was very much 'his life'.**

**It is so unfair that football and this wonderfully friendly football club has been cheated so badly by the loss of Dave.**

**He was always ready to take the Mickey, but would be equally supportive, and was even known to buy a pint!**

**He was a great friend to Epsom Referees' Society and for many years we drank together on Friday nights at the old and very old clubhouses of the past.**

**David, you will remain in our thoughts forever.**

**Ian Hart**

**Referee and friend**

**Heard the news of Dave’s passing on Saturday afternoon and wanted to pay my respects to Whizz in the best way possible. I’ve known Dave for over 15 years and always found him to be a real Epsom & Ewell man, who loved his football. The fella probably had blue and white blood. Maybe a few of the old Epsom lads should have a drink in Ewell one evening and pay our respects to Dave over a curry – just how he would have liked it……**

**Rest in peace mate**

**Micky Owen**

**Former Player, Epsom & Ewell F.C.**

**Sorry to hear the sad news concerning Dave Wilson, which I heard mentioned on Southern Counties Radio. Dave was the club's press officer when I was working at the Surrey Comet in Kingston, but saw him last season when Epsom and Ewell visited Herne Bay in the FA Vase. A true servant of the club, non league football thrives on volunteers like him, and he will be sadly missed.**

**Andrew Gidley**

**Kentish Gazette, Canterbury**

**It is with great sadness I heard the news of Dave this morning, the biggest shock possible returning from my honeymoon. “Mr Epsom and Ewell” knew everything, and I will miss his valuable match day information as the most approachable and friendly person. It saddens me that I will no longer be able to walk through the gates and ask him a ridiculously vague question about the team and find him giving the most detailed response that I never expected.**

**My condolences to his family, rest peacefully Dave.**

**Paul Varcoe**

**Supporter, Epsom & Ewell F.C.**

**I was shocked and saddened to hear the tragic news of Dave's death. His contribution to Epsom and Ewell Football Club has been immense and he will be greatly missed by many people connected with the club, both past and present.**

**My deepest sympathies go to his family and everyone at the Club.**

**Andy Boxall**

**Former Epsom and Ewell Player**

**I'd like to pay my respects to Dave and pass on my condolences to his family. I had 2 great spells playing for Epsom and 'Whiz' was 'Mr Epsom & Ewell'. A sad loss.**

**Tim Smith**

**Former Epsom & Ewell Player**

**On behalf of Dorking FC, we would like to record our deepest sympathy to Dave's family and of course to everyone at Epsom & Ewell FC.**

**A lot of us here at DFC have known Dave for a long time, working with him behind the scenes to support our local football clubs and of course enjoying his company on many occasions. A real loss to local non-league football and such a respected and helpful man will be impossible to replace.**

**All at Dorking FC**

**Ray Collins**

**Director / Secretary - Dorking F.C.**

**I am very moved after reading the many contributions that have been made for Dave on this page. The number and emotion of the messages truly communicates what a terrific gentleman Dave was, and highlights his enormous and total dedication to Epsom and Ewell FC.**

**I met Dave in the 1973-1974 season, when I was 12 years old, my first season as an Epsom & Ewell FC supporter. Dave won the best linesman in the Surrey Senior league reserve league for that year.**

**In all the matches I have attended, home and away over this period of 32 years, I can hardly recall Dave not being there.**

**He always found time to talk to me, I really cannot grasp that I will never see him again. He will always have a place in my memory.**

**Steve Davies**

**Supporter, Epsom & Ewell F.C.**