

# OBITUARIES

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## Anthony Valentine Barford

### Donald Portsmouth

Consultant geriatrician Birmingham (b 1928; q Cardiff 1956; FRCP Edin), died from colon cancer on 28 October 2014.

The son of a general practitioner in Tamworth, Anthony Valentine Barford (“Tony”) was educated at Winchester College. His medical training at Cardiff gave him, an Englishman, an appreciation of Welsh humour, among other things. After junior appointments at Morrision Hospital, Swansea, he trained in geriatric medicine in Oxford, a centre of innovative ideas in elderly care.

He was appointed consultant at East Birmingham (now Heartlands) Hospital in 1969 and was soon involved in developing two new purpose built units. A staunch supporter of the West Midland Institute of Geriatric Medicine, as secretary and editor of its house journal, *Tripod*, he was involved in undergraduate and postgraduate teaching.

A keen sportsman, Tony fenced in his younger days and later skied and played golf. Music was an important part of his life, as was his electronic expertise, which he employed in an attempt to bring his colleagues into the evolving computer world.

After retiring to Salcombe, he and his wife became involved in local activities, notably National Association of Decorative and Fine Arts Societies. He later had a stroke and also underwent colonic surgery.

He leaves his wife, Veronica, and a stepson, whose wife is currently a trainee in anaesthesia.

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