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Rosemary Joyce Mattingly

Clare Seamark



Rosemary's father, Richard Willing, left his family farm in Devon after serving in the first world war and trained as a veterinary surgeon in London. There he reconnected with another branch of the family and married a distant cousin, Joyce Warren, who had trained in music. They encouraged and supported their two daughters in their chosen careers. They especially helped Rosemary, who eventually, despite some initial challenges, secured a place at Barts. She qualified in 1954 while her younger sister Anne trained as a nurse.

She returned to Devon to work at the old Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital in Southernhay, where on his 33rd birthday in 1955 she met her future husband David Mattingly, who was the resident medical officer.

She moved to Surrey to work, and they were married in 1956 while David was working at St Thomas' Hospital.

They returned to Exeter in 1963 when David was appointed the first director of the newly established

Postgraduate Medical Institute. Rosemary combined family life with three children and working in general practice, school health, community paediatric clinics, and as the doctor for the local Marks and Spencer's store for many years.

In retirement she and David took up bowls at their local club and played to a good standard, enjoying doing something completely different from their medical careers. They also had two wonderful trips to Australia and New Zealand to meet old friends and colleagues. A keen singer, Rosemary was also an enthusiastic and valued member of more than one choir in Exeter.

She leaves three children (the eldest a GP), five grandchildren, and one great granddaughter.

Community doctor (b 1929; q St Bartholomew's Hospital 1954), died from frailty and complications after a hip fracture on 17 February 2020