



## **Brian McNaney (1945 – 2012)**

*A story about Brian McNaney's life by his sister Alice Jordan.*

### **My Brother...**

Brian passed away last year on 5th March with all his family around him. He died from bowel cancer 15 months after being diagnosed, he was aged 66.

My brother was the eldest of 6 children and father of 8. We all respected and loved him a lot. Brian was fiercely independent and fought his illness to the end. He worked until 3 months before he died and sadly never achieved his retirement dream of sailing a full year on his beloved Tall Ships.

His love of the sea started with fishing as a boy. At age 14 he worked on a trawler, although sea sickness got the better of him and he gave it up to work on terra firma. He bought and sailed his own yacht out of Jersey where he lived for many years, selling up only when he returned to the South East. He spent time on the Stavros but his love was the Prince William and the family endured many stories repeatedly told of his adventures on board! But we all knew sailing was his passion.

He wanted to come back home to spend his remaining time, he put his house up for sale and rented a flat at the seaside so he could see the sea every day. Having a sea view from every window meant even when he was in bed he could watch the waves. Sadly he never spent any time there as his condition deteriorated rapidly. In his final few days he watched and listened continuously to his Tall Ships DVD from his bed and he passed away with the music playing in the background.

As a family we decided to have a Tall Ship, Prince William transfer printed onto his coffin. It was amazing and so beautiful. On the day of his funeral for his final journey the cortège travelled to the seaside before he was cremated to the sound of Rod Stewart's I am Sailing.

His ashes as you probably can guess were scattered at sea, my son who owns a trawler had instructions from his Uncle Brian exactly where he wanted to be... 6 miles out between the piers !

Always loved and missed, and in the words of his nephews...

**“A HERO and LEGEND”**