Suters stores head, 90 dies

A LONG serving Rotarian and popular Gerrards Cross resident has died, aged 90. John Suter, former chairman of the family department store Suters in Slough and Uxbridge, died peacefully at The Nuffield Nursing Home, Wexham last week with his family at his bedside.

His daughter Wendy-Ann Ensor says everyone will remember her father as a "real gentleman".

"He was a very active man, he was driving around Gerrards Cross in his BMW until two weeks ago, and only recently was taking out the elderly and handicapped children for day trips," she said.

Mr Suter became ill suddenly last week, and developed bronchial pneumonia before he passed away on Friday.

Born in Ledbury, Herefordshire, in 1907, Mr Suter was the youngest of five children.

Educated at St Paul's School, London, from 1921 to 1925, he joined the family business after training.

He married his wife Irene, known as Bobbie, in 1932, and they were together for 57 years before her death in 1990.

The couple, along with their four children, Richard, Robert, Philip and Wendy-Ann, moved to Austenwood, Gerrards Cross in 1946, the couple later living in Meadway Park and then from Easter with his son Robert in Hamilton Place.

During World War II he served in the RAF and was demobilised in 1946 with the rank of Flight Lieutenant.

He was the longest serving active member of Uxbridge Rotary Club, joining in 1934, and in 1989 he received Rotary's Paul Harris award - the highest honour Rotary can make.

For more than 40 years he worked in the family department store business, being chairman of the board for six years prior to Owen Owen purchasing the company in 1978.

There will be a service of thanksgiving at St James' Church, Gerrards Cross on Tuesday at 10.45am.

OBITUARY

- JOHN SUTER pictured at his Gerrards Cross home