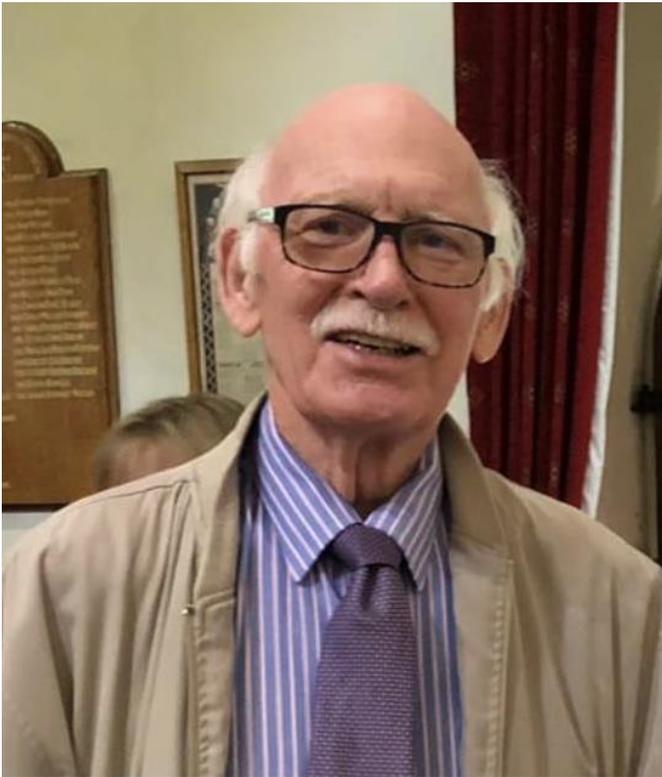


MICHAEL HOWARD BLAYDES

11/5/1939-21/5/2021



Michael was a well-known member of the Welton community, having lived here since 1972. He moved here to open Saxon House (now known as Healthlinc House) which was an assessment centre with education on the premises for young people.

His career in childcare and social work had begun many years before, in 1962. After their training, Michael and Margaret became the youngest Church of England Children's Society house parents when they took over the responsibility of Saint Edith's Children's Home in Fareham, Hampshire, in 1964. Various positions followed but Welton eventually became the family home. When Saxon House was closed, Michael continued to work with young people at North Lincolnshire College and then at NACRO until his retirement.

Following retirement, he volunteered as a PDA driver, supporting local people for many years until 2017.

In Welton, he was an active member of Saint Mary's church, serving on the Church Council and as a church warden.

In 1984, on the 10th anniversary of the Welton/Moncé-en-Belin twinning charter, he and Margaret began the family twinning group, organising many trips to France and hosting the French return trips. The family twinning group is still flourishing and many lasting friendships have been forged.

Due to Covid-19 restrictions, following a private cremation service, Michael's funeral service took place outside surrounded by family and friends in the grounds of Saint Mary's church. The sunshine, the rustling trees and the birdsong created a peaceful, serene and cathartic atmosphere. Our heartfelt thanks go to Revd Adam and his team for making this possible.

Margaret and all the family would like to thank everyone most sincerely for their condolences and kind support since Michael's death. We have been overwhelmed with messages, cards and flowers from far and wide, but especially from our friends from the village which welcomed us so many years ago.

The family of Michael Blaydes