

Graham Mantell

October 1947 – February 2026

Graham Mantell passed away peacefully in Looe, Cornwall, on 21st February 2026, aged 78, after a courageous battle with cancer.

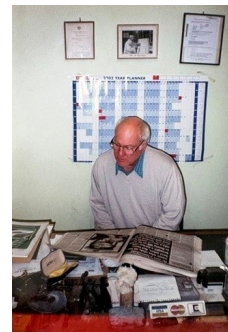
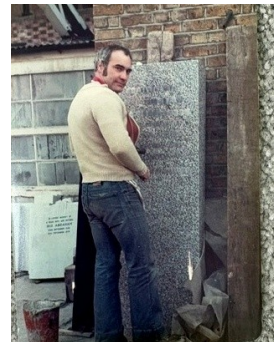
A well-known and highly respected mason and letter carver, Graham was admired for his exceptional craftsmanship and the pride he took in his work. In 2005, he took over R. Munday & Son as a sole trader, building the business through his skill and dedication. Graham sold memorials and carried out much of the lettering and fixing himself, building a business and reputation that meant an awful lot to him. He would have been equally proud to see R. Munday & Son continuing to do well today.

Graham lived life with an unmistakable strength of character. He loved good food and an active lifestyle, and remained remarkably strong and active well into retirement. Stoic by nature, he rarely complained and met even the most difficult days of his illness with quiet courage and determination.

Graham was a gentle, caring and thoughtful man. With a good sense of humour and natural warmth, he brought people together and had a way of making those around him feel at ease. He was someone people respected, enjoyed being around and thought the world of.

He will be remembered with enormous affection by all who knew him, and with immense pride by the family who were lucky enough to call him theirs.

They simply do not make them like Graham anymore.





One-man business relies on stone-cutting skill

KEEP - ITS enthusiasm Graham Mastell's entire business future lies in his hands. The skill that with his two large hands he has honed to a fine point is stone-cutting. It is a craft that has been passed down through generations, and it is one of the few remaining skills that cannot be taught in a classroom. Mastell, 42, is a self-taught stone-cutter who has built a successful business out of his home in the Borough of Havant, where he cuts the intricate carvings on gravestones by hand.

While many other stone-cutters use machines and electric grinders to do the work, Mastell insists on using only hand tools. He says that using machines takes away the "feel" of the stone, which is essential for creating the intricate designs that his clients demand. He has a reputation for being a "one-man band," handling everything from the initial design to the final carving and installation of the stone.

It's an old, old trade, and Mastell is proud to be part of it. He has been in the business for over 20 years, and he has a deep knowledge of the craft. He has a collection of old tools and equipment that he uses to create his work. He has a workshop in his home, and he has a small office where he takes orders and manages his business. He has a loyal following of clients, and he has a reputation for being a "one-man band" who can handle everything from the initial design to the final carving and installation of the stone.

A glimpse of Graham's craftsmanship and the recognition his work received.



Graham and Lynda

A poem chosen by Lynda

Death is Nothing at All

Henry Scott Holland

Death is nothing at all.
I have only slipped away into the next room.
I am I, and you are you.
Whatever we were to each other, that we still are.

Call me by my old familiar name,
speak to me in the easy way which you always used.
Put no difference in your tone,
wear no forced air of solemnity or sorrow.

Laugh as we always laughed
at the little jokes we enjoyed together.
Let my name be ever the household word that it always
was.

Let it be spoken without effort,
without the trace of a shadow on it.

Life means all that it ever meant,
it is the same as it ever was.
There is unbroken continuity,
why should I be out of mind
because I am out of sight?

I am waiting for you,
somewhere very near,
just around the corner.

All is well.