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№ 793 Wednesday, September 16, 1998

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Well-known local businessman dies 'Distinguished gentleman'

ONE of the longest-serving members of Uxbridge Rotary Club and a well-known local businessman, John Suter, has died a month short of his 91st birthday.

Mr Suter joined Rotary in 1934, was president from 1948-49 and was still attending the Friday lunches at Uxbridge Civic Centre until earlier this month.

He worked for the family department store, Suters Ltd, which had branches in Slough and Uxbridge, for more than 40 years from the 1930s.

He was chairman of the board for six years until it was taken over by Owen Owen in 1978.

Mr Suter, who lived in Uxbridge until 1948, died peacefully in the early hours of Friday at the Nuffield Nursing Home, Wexham.

John Randall, Uxbridge MP, who owns a family business, Randalls, in Vine Street, Uxbridge, said: "John Suter was a distinguished gentleman, one of a disappearing breed. He was part of Uxbridge's history.

"He was always very cheerful and will be missed by the many people he's come into contact with from his days as an Uxbridge businessman to his years of service for voluntary and charitable works."

Born in Ledbury, Herefordshire, the youngest of five children, he was educated at St Paul's School, London, from 1921-1925.

In 1932 he married Irene (Bobbie) Margaret Milner, and they enjoyed 57 years of marriage, mostly spent at their home in Gerrards Cross, until her death in 1990.

He served in the RAF in World War Two reaching the rank of Flight Lieutenant before being demobbed in 1946.

Gordon Hibbert, president of Uxbridge Rotary Club, said: "It was with great sadness we heard on Friday, John Suter had died.

"He still played a very active part in the club, always willing to be of help at any of our events



■ John Suter, businessman and Rotarian, who has died just before his 91st birthday.

including the Uxbridge Auto Show, which was a favourite of his.

"He was concerned with the welfare of Rotarians and their families, was always in good spirit and had a great sense of humour.

"He will be greatly missed by members of the club who wish to convey their deepest sympathy to all John's family."

Mr Suter was given the Paul Harris Award, the highest honour Rotary can bestow.

Mr Suter was a passionate player and follower of sport and a member of Middlesex County Cricket Club, but his family was the most important element in his life, said his son Philip.

He leaves a daughter and three sons, nine grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

A service of thanksgiving will be held on Tuesday, September 22, at 10.45am in St James Church, Oxford Road, Gerrards Cross.

der

the Borough of Hillingdon

Spotlight on Hillingdon