

TRIBUTES TO JOHN LOVERIDGE FROM FORMER BHCHS PUPILS

	YOS	
Rick Walker (Eric)	66	John was such a professional and caring teacher. I was one of his geography students between 1968 and 1973 and his hard work, and that of Tom Leek, ensured that I got a B for my geography A level. I nearly became a geographer myself, but changed to a politics degree. I sometimes wonder if I made the right choice. You might recall that five years ago you kindly put me in email contact with him. I can't thank you enough for doing so. When I contacted him, 50 or so years later, I did so to thank him for being such an inspiring teacher and also to apologise for having been an occasional pain in the neck. I was sort of relieved that he couldn't actually remember me! Since then John and I maintained annual email correspondence. I really enjoyed our emails. He remained a sharp observer of the world who wrote with deep understanding and compassion. He was wise and wrote with clarity and a great sense of humour too. We were last in contact at Christmas and was about to write to him again when I got your news.
Mark Robson	71	Bugsy was my favourite teacher. I had no interest in Geography whatsoever but he managed to make the subject interesting. I can point out an oxbow lake to anyone and that's down to Bugsy. Of all the tributes than can be paid to a teacher I think one of the greatest is that I actually looked forward to attending lessons with him. If I wasn't bunking off. I don't have a vast archive of wonderful memories of BHCHS but I do remember him fondly. I assume he will be immaculately dressed for his funeral.
David Long	72	Certainly Mr Rooney played a more significant role in laying the foundations of my career as a writer but J C Loveridge was by far the most inspirational person I encountered during my time at BHCHS. I was lucky enough to be taught by him for all seven years, and he was my 4th year form master. I did A level Geography entirely because of him and his warm, generous personality which made lessons as enjoyable as they were informative. By chance I ran into him at Covent Garden in the late-1980s and although it took a couple of days for him to agree to meet me in a nearby pub he did the end and the result was two hours I look back on with great pleasure. He was talented, funny, charming and engaging, and brought joy into the class if not every single day then very definitely more often than not.
David Edwards	76	That's v sad about Mr Loveridge. He was a wonderful teacher and human being. As I think I wrote before, he once handed a terrible piece of work back to me with a blithe "Never mind, I'm sure, like great wine, you will improve with age." I was his devoted pupil ever after !
Peter Beaumont	76	He was without doubt my favourite teacher. A kind and lovely man who genuinely loved his subject and inspired his pupils. I managed to get an A at O and A level and my love of geography has continued throughout my life. We've lost a great teacher.
John Leith	76	Despite being an avid reader of everything you produce I've never written to you. However, the news of Mr Loveridge's death (I could never refer to him as John) did spark a few memories as he taught me and two of my elder brothers at BHCHS. I can't imagine what age he would be now but I'm guessing well into his 80s My fondest memories of him are as follows: It was he that inspired me to apply for a job at the Met Office in London as I shared the love of weather that he instilled in many of us. He never knew that I was offered the job but I was also offered a job in a bank at the same time and took that one on parental advice. I've loved his triangle drawing of the UK and his infallible way to predict imminent snow in the winter - "watch out for a low pressure coming up the channel boys" His eclectic exercise book distribution system was so entertaining i.e. chuck them like frisbees from the front of the class aiming always for a headshot! And one can never forget what a deadeye shot with a piece of chalk he was if he caught you not paying attention - I recall the chalk duster being used for persistent offenders. All inappropriate now but it did us no harm and we loved his lessons
Paul Campbell	77	Fond memories of hearing his humorous rants about his cat, him waxing lyrical on his love of opera and his depictions of occluded fronts across the circle+scalene triangle map of the British Isles. My favourite teacher.