

Mike Durand (6 June 1944 – 1 October 2005)



Mike and Sue Durand

Mike Durand was educated at Bristol Grammar School and Leeds University. As a schoolboy, he won both the West of England Schools' Singles and Doubles and whilst at Leeds, he captured the British Universities' Doubles title in 1963, partnering Les Chappell.

Post-University, he won the West of England Doubles in 1969 with Jack Slater and in the same year, they were runners-up in the Cyriax Cup.

Apart from Fives, Mike was a talented tennis player, competing at Junior Wimbledon and representing his University and County. He continued to play to a high standard throughout his life.

After marrying Sue, Mike emigrated to Australia via Papua New Guinea, living firstly in Melbourne and latterly in Adelaide, raising a family of 3 sons and a daughter. Mike loved the outdoor life-style and he and Sue undertook some notable hikes and expeditions into the outback during their holidays, but much as he loved his adopted home, he still felt strong bonds with his country of birth. He loved receiving visitors in Australia and returning to look up old chums when the opportunity presented itself. His patriotism was also reflected in his garage which housed his beloved MG, a Jaguar and his mother's old Mini.

Anyone who met Mike in the last 12 months, as I was privileged to do, would testify to his courageous and selfless battle against cancer. His cheerfulness and constant clubability marked him as a true subscriber to Fives' well known camaraderie. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

F.R.F. Wilson