Cynthia Oliver 1929 - 2012
Alan Oliver 1927 - 2013

Cynthia was born in Charlbury, the fifth of six children. The family later moved to a small-holding on the Leafield Road, Shipton. She was educated at Charlbury Primary School and Chipping Norton Grammar School, before going on to secretarial training in Oxford.

Alan was the eldest of three brothers, born in Shipton and living on another small-holding on the Leafield Road. Leaving school at 14, Alan started work as an agricultural engineer in Witney.

As close neighbours, Alan and Cynthia literally met 'over the garden fence' and romance blossomed. When they married they moved to Salisbury, where Alan helped build the garrisons and a prison. Adrian and Jane were both born during this period. The family returned to Shipton and moved into *The Old Bakehouse*, which was to be their home for the rest of their lives.

Cynthia was typical of women of her generation - the homemaker and mainstay of the family. She loved spending time with their grandchildren, taking them to the theatre and also passing on her baking skills. She was renowned for her cakes and pastry. Not all her interests were within the house; she was a member of Shipton WI and the Chipping Norton Choral Society. Swimming and walking were her relaxations. She loved to travel and when Alan toured the country pursuing his love of exotic parakeets, Cynthia and the children would go on holiday without him. After the closure of the Methodist church in Milton, Cynthia worshipped regularly at Westcote.

Alan worked hard all his life, starting as a poultry farmer when they returned to Shipton, at the same time as working in the building trade. He supported Swindon FC and enjoyed watching any sport.

Sadly Alan and Cynthia suffered a family tragedy when their daughter Jane was killed. As their grandchildren grew, their company was enjoyed more and more. Family gatherings always brought great joy to them both, whether a formal dinner, a simple BBQ, or a private audience at the home of Danny la Rue. Christmas with all the family, a good meal and a glass of wine was where they were most content.

Recent years were not easy for either of them. Alan spent time in hospital in Banbury and it was hard for Cynthia to get there to see him. Alan moved in to Tall Trees, where after the shock of Cynthia's death, he spent his last days. Well known to so many in the village and much loved by their family, Alan and Cynthia will both be missed but are now reunited. May they rest in peace.

Adrian Oliver