

Ken Stanley (1922 – 2013)

From Doreen Schofield: Ken was born in Manchester, Lancashire, and started playing table tennis at the age of 11. He very soon improved by going to Manchester YMCA, where eventually, there were a lot of English International players. When Ken was 17 he played his first International match for England in Cairo in 1939. He then played in more later, as well as table tennis tournaments. During the 2nd world war, he was in the RAF and became a P.T. instructor. On 6th June 1942 he married Marion. He later was posted to India in 1945.

Not one to miss his table tennis, he played in the All India Cup and won men's singles, men's doubles, and mixed doubles. In 1947 Scotland appointed Ken as their first national coach, where he spent 2 years in the post in Edinburgh. After that, Ken became the National coach in Wellington, New Zealand in 1952.

On his return back to England, he then started what was always his dream – to start his own coaching school, this was a table tennis hall in Burnley, in 1954. He later joined the sportswear firm Mitre, in 1960. Some time later, he decided to become a football agent. His first one was Denis Law, then George Best decided to employ Denis Law's agent, who was, of course, Ken Stanley. After the World Football Cup in 1966, all of the players in the England squad signed up with Ken, also in 1970 and 1974.

Ken carried on working until he finally retired at the age of 80 in 2002. He then spent the next 10 years caring for his wife, Marion, until eventually his health failed him, and he passed away on the 1st March 2013.

He leaves his wife Marion, three daughters Janet, Margaret, Susan, and son David.

We offer our deepest sympathy to all the family.