

Sub Lieutenant George Eden Walker RNVR (1925 - 2023)



*George and Olga*

George Eden Walker was born on 18 June 1925 in Doncaster, Yorkshire. He attended Doncaster Grammar School, left at 16 and joined the railway company LNER as an apprentice chemist. In 1943 he joined the Royal Navy (Supply & Secretariat branch), and trained at various shore bases, including HMS Attack, the Coastal Forces headquarters at Portland. In November 1944 he was drafted to HMS Foam, a minesweeper sweeping during the day up the coast of France and Belgium. He was in charge of naval stores on the ship. After VE Day they continued sweeping up the British coast until VJ Day.

He received a temporary commission as Sub Lieutenant (S) RNVR in November 1945 and was posted to Ceylon where he served in various shore establishments. George was appointed to HMS Mayina in January 1946. Later he was transferred to the Royal Naval Air Station HMS Ukassa, where he was in charge of the cash office, and then to HMS Highflyer at Trincomalee, where he was the Assistant to the Fleet Supply Officer.

George was appointed to the repair ship HMS Beachy Head in November 1946 and returned to the UK on 22 January 1947. He officially retired from the RN on 7 March 1947.

On return to civilian life George obtained a grant to study chemistry at Leeds University. He married Olga Fielding in March 1948 and graduated from Leeds in 1951. He then joined Albright & Wilson, a chemicals company, as a technical rep, moving to Solihull, near Birmingham. His son, John David Walker, was born in 1954. George often went on sailing holidays with friends during this time, on occasions sailing to Scotland and Holland.

George stayed with A & W all his career, becoming an Area Sales Manager. He retired age 58 in 1984, and in 1985 he and Olga moved to Sidmouth. Olga died in 1988 and George married Elsie Babbs, a recently widowed friend of theirs, in 1989.

Elsie died in 2014 and George himself died on 1 January 2023.