

Duncan Smith – Excerpt from Jonathan Smith Letter

You probably don't know about Duncan's early 'Roy of the Rovers' exploits which always put me in the shade. At Clifton House prep school he won the Victor Ludorum, at 11 and at 13 he won every event on sports day, the 100, 200, 400, 800 yards, high and long jumps plus the cricket and football cups. You won't be surprised to hear he was the Victor Ludorum too! At Fives he won the public schools singles twice. His second time only losing 2 points in the final (the first 2!). He was almost certainly the finest schoolboy Fives player ever – absolutely ruthless, and completely ambidextrous. I won the English Fives singles almost assuredly only because Duncan retired at 18. He was of course, the complete cricketer at Lords under Henry Blofeld, he scored 50+ in the first match (North v South) and took 5 wickets in the final match v the combined services. He was a superb fielder too, who could throw a cricket ball 110 yards. In his first year in Aberdeen he took many wickets for Aberdeenshire, including 7 for 20 odd, 6 and 5 chiefly– he was too quick for the Scots. On a Saturday he was unable to travel, due to work, and he played for Aberdeen town in the Stathmore Union. Considered largely as a bowler, he scored 163 N/O beating the Stathmore Union all-time record. Sadly due to a dispute, he then retired. What a 'loss'. He was exceptionally strong – once we had a friendly wrestle by the Open Air pool at Scarborough and he picked me up ( I was 12 stone) and threw me into the pool as if I were a doll. I never wrestled with him again! I always said he was the top sportsman of his time. Who else was brilliant at 6 sports? (football and athletics too).

P.S. He was the star of the Aberdeen Sunday League at football – an impeccable centre half, who could pass the ball 50 or 60 yards accurately with either foot.

In Loving Memory  
of  
**Duncan Smith**

15-10-1937 – 09-06-2023



The family thank you  
for your attendance here today.

*Stonehaven Funeral Directors*  
9 Bridgefield, Stonehaven AB39 2JE.  
Tel: 01569 763222

Funeral Service  
Balдарroch Crematorium  
Crathes, Banchory  
Thursday 22nd June 2023  
at 11.30am

**HYMN**

And did those feet in ancient time  
Walk upon England's mountain green?  
And was the holy Lamb of God  
On England's pleasant pastures seen?  
And did the countenance divine  
Shine forth upon our clouded hills?  
And was Jerusalem builded here  
Among those dark satanic mills?

Bring me my bow of burning gold!  
Bring me my arrows of desire!  
Bring me my spear! O clouds, unfold!  
Bring me my chariot of fire!  
I will not cease from mental fight,  
Nor shall my sword sleep in my hand,  
Till we have built Jerusalem  
In England's green and pleasant land.