

Joe Ashcroft MBE Obituary 16 January 2012

We are deeply saddened to learn of the unexpected death of Greater Manchester Timekeeper Joe Ashcroft.



Joe passed away suddenly on Saturday night, he had been officiating at the Gtr Manchester Cross Country Championships during the day during which there had been no indication of any problem.

Funeral Details

The funeral will take place with service and committal at Oldham Crematorium (Hollinwood) on Thursday 19th January at 11-30am. Family flowers only please, donations if desired to the RNLI C/o Mrs J Jackson, 48-52 Rochdale Road, Shaw, Oldham, OL2 7SA. Further enquiries to Hedley Jackson Dip. F.D. Tel 01706 847422

Comments

- Added: 09/01/2012 19:20:56

Joe was hugely respected by all in the athletics community in the North West and beyond. He was friendly, approachable and professional. Our thoughts are with his friends and family. RIP Joe

By **Mike Welford**

- Added: 13/01/2012 09:26:28

A true gent. One of lifes good guys. He will be sorely missed by the local running scene. RIP Joe

By **neil mcgraw**

- Added: 13/01/2012 13:23:19

I knew Joe through work and athletics. He always went out of his way to help and took the time to have a word whatever the occasion. A great bloke who will be sadly missed.

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By **Steve Duxbury**

- Added: 13/01/2012 16:59:10

Agree with Neil M. A real gent who worked hard ALL of the time. Always put everyone else first. A great loss.

By **Lee Chadwick**

- Added: 13/01/2012 17:01:36

Joe was our Chief Timekeeper for many years and will be sorely missed. At our last event, despite being asked to officiate at the Indoors at Sportcity on the same day, our race had been booked first, so we were his priority. Who else will be there now to tell athletes about not wearing their Club vests!! On a personal note, several years ago as a member of Oldham & Royton, I ran with Joe plus 2 other members during training nights and LONG Sunday morning runs that could last from 3 to 4 hours - exhausting!! Finally, I can only reiterate all the other comments about Joe and send all of our thoughts to Carol and family.

By **Marilyn Guest**

- Added: 13/01/2012 22:01:17

Saddened to hear the passing of Joe. A caring and supportive man who gave his absolute everything to everyone. Joe coached me for many years some time ago now, but will never ever forget what a truly lovely man he really was.. RIP Joe! Sending love to Carole and Steve, thinking of you xx

By **Amanda Lawson (Gilligan)**

- Added: 14/01/2012 22:32:35

I've known Joe and his family for the past 25 years, of which 20 years I've been lucky enough to have been coached by a truly great bloke. Joe would always have time for a chat whether it was about athletics or just putting the world to rights. It just saddens me that our club has lost such a pivotal figure and that I won't hear his voice calling out the times at training sessions. RIP Joe, our thoughts are with Carole and Steve.

By **Trevor Davies (Oldham & Royton Harriers)**

- Added: 14/01/2012 22:54:03

My running days are long gone but Joe was there to encourage and help me in other activities that I "tried" be it open water swimming, long distance walking or attempts at getting me to try scuba diving. JOE You were a good u

By **Jan Curtis**

- Added: 14/01/2012 23:38:14

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Deeply saddened my thoughts and prayers with Carole and Steve. Trained with Joe for almost 10 years in the 80s and 90s. Truly salt of the earth and never objected to anyone trespassing on his time. Not only a great coach but a man with a wealth of knowledge and common sense RIP Joe

By **Mark Bradley**

- Added: 15/01/2012 11:06:19

Known Joe for 20 years and worked with him for a while, good man he'll be missed

By **Alan Carroll**

- Added: 16/01/2012 12:53:22

Deeply saddened our thoughts and prayers are with Carole and Steve. Joe was an extraordinary person. He dedicated his life to helping others passing on his wealth of knowledge, nothing was ever too much trouble for him. His death has left a gaping hole in every one's life and will be sadly missed. It has been a honour to have known and coached along side Joe. Rest in Peace Joe Gerald & Mel Lee (Oldham & Royton Harriers)

By **Gerald Lee**

- Added: 17/01/2012 17:49:03

Have been lucky enough to be coached by Joe and always helped me. He always put others first and will be sadly missed. Thoughts with Carole and Steve, RIP Joe.

By **Chris Brown**

- Added: 19/01/2012 09:35:21

I have known Joe some years since I was an athlete-a long time ago! He never changed always on hand to help and support others. A privilege to have known Joe, our last memory was having a joke with him at the Greater Manchester Cross Country and that will stay with us. Our thoughts and prayers go to Carole and Steve. RIP Joe xx

By **Deborah, Alan & Christopher (Brown,)**

- Added: 19/01/2012 19:03:49

Hadn't seen Joe for quite a while but will always remember with fondness our fun times we all had when we all went to The London marathon "Mind the gap!" (you really had to be there!) When ever I think of Joe and Carole a smile always comes to my face :) You will be missed by so many and remembered with love. My heart goes out to Carole and Ste. Joe touched the lives of so many people in his short but never un-eventful life and will be sadly missed by so many RIP Aileen Watson -x-

By **Aileen Watson**

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- Added: 25/01/2012 13:40:36

I was very saddened to hear about Joe's passing. He has certainly been one of the real characters of the sport in 20 years I've lived in this area. We met in Albufeira by chance when Oldham & Royton were on a training holiday (Trevor Davies will recall!)... he had been a very good friend ever since! Thoughts are with his family + RIP Joe +

By **Nick Burke**

- Added: 30/01/2012 13:43:32

Extremely saddened to hear about the passing of Joe. I trained at Oldham and Royton with Steve and Joe many moons ago and to my surprise there he was 20 whatever years later time-keeping at SELCC when my kids took up running. We will miss him and our thoughts go out to his family

By **Sean Moore**

- Added: 24/06/2012 03:48:48

One of the greatest inspirations to my life, also one of the greatest people i have ever known. RIP uncle Joe x

By **Riana Masterson**