

Frank Gledhill



It is with great sadness Yorkshire Athletics announce the sudden and tragic death of Mr Frank Gledhill of Huddersfield.

Frank who has served the sport of athletics in the Yorkshire area for over 40 years with distinction, had been the Yorkshire Mens Championship Secretary for many years and was a Vice President of the Yorkshire County Athletics Association. He leaves a widow, 3 children and 4 grandchildren. Funeral details will be displayed as soon as they are known.

Northern Athletics would like to extend their condolences to Yorkshire Athletics and the Gledhill Family

The funeral will be held on Thursday 10th April 2008 at 12 noon at Huddersfield Crematorium. Family flowers only. Donations will go to the Holme Valley and Calder Valley Mountain Rescue

Comments

- Added: 31/03/2008 18:21:21

A very sad day for Yorkshire athletics and the whole of the athletic community. Frank was one of the nicest people and coaches I have ever met and been involved with. Frank was one of my first inspirations to get into the event of Discus. My deepest sympathy to Franks family

By **Paul Wilson**

- Added: 31/03/2008 22:59:11

All our love to you Frank! The Yorkshire's will never be the same without you!
Thinking of you Pat and Jane

By **Rob Russell**

- Added: 01/04/2008 01:01:45

I met Frank when I moved from Scotland to work at the track at Wakefield. Frank was kind enough to give me advice on the field events. Sad loss for Yorkshire athletics and his club Spenborough Athletic club. My thoughts are with Frank's family at this sad time. All the best Frank, you were a great sport.

By Bryan Murray

- Added: 01/04/2008 19:37:10

A pleasure and privilege to have known him for many years. When I became involved with a relatively "young" rurally based club in N.Yorks he always had the best interests of our young athletes at heart with his encouragement and words of wisdom. Always larger than life he will be a sad loss to the sport in general and Yorkshire Athletics in particular. Our thoughts are with his family. Graeme and Wendy Nicholson

By Graeme and Wendy Nicholson

- Added: 01/04/2008 23:07:36

Very sorry to hear the news about Frank. All our thoughts and sympathies go to his family.

By Ros. Paul, Hannah Stacey & Karl Evenden

- Added: 02/04/2008 10:25:22

All my thoughts and sympathies go to his family. He was one of the nicest men I know and I will sadly miss him in the shot circle.

By Elaine Wilcock

- Added: 03/04/2008 09:05:33

With great sadness I learnt the passing of big Frank. When I joined Spenborough & District Athletic Club from ASVAC in 1976 I was introduced to Frank. Big Frank made me and my family most welcome at the club. When I was selected to represent Great Britain in the early 1980's Frank and his family came to support me, his encouragement throughout my athletic career was one of great support and he would always telephone me for my result if he could not attend. In most recent years Frank and myself acted as the Yorkshire Team Managers for both Track & Field and Cross Country. The fun, jokes and laughter we shared together will be cherished forever. Goodbye my friend you were one of the true gentlemen of athletics that I have ever known.

By Andrew Medley, Ex GB International & Yorkshire Athl

- Added: 04/04/2008 22:26:14

Grandad, a week has passed, I miss you and I will never forget you. You put a smile on everyone's face and athletics won't be the same without you. Your life was full of joy and no one could break your happiness. I was the luckiest girl in the world to have you as my Grandad. Lots of love, kisses and cuddles from Lucy xx

By Lucy Chapman

- Added: 06/04/2008 21:05:46

We are deeply saddened to hear that Frank has sadly passed away, and wish to pass on our condolences to Jane, Gavin and the family. We both benefitted from Frank's guidance in the field, and will miss his genuine, honest and warm personality. The WY Schools, in particular, just won't be the same. The tips he passed on though, will be in use all summer and handed on. Indeed, another generation stands ready to step right into his shoes.

By **Kirsten Scobie & Robert Cameron**

- Added: 08/04/2008 12:05:45

You were more than a Grandad to me you was: Mr G on my first day at Lepton School, a Dad, a mate, a travelling companion and an extra special friend. You were there for me when I learnt to drive and was so pleased I'd passed my test at the first attempt. I'll keep up all the things you've taught me. I hope I am worthy to carry on in the footsteps of a great man – my Grandad.

By **Gavin Gledhill**

- Added: 09/04/2008 16:02:28

I first met Frank Gledhill in 1964, when I examined him to be a coach with a specialism in Discus. I soon recognised that he was an excellent coach for all of the field events. Indeed Frank took Discus at all of our Regional training days at Cleckheaton. More recently, at all of the major Championships we spent time talking over "old times in the sport". I will sadly miss these sessions. The Yorkshire Championships cannot be the same again. Wilf Paish MBE

By **Wilf Paish**

- Added: 11/04/2008 11:41:41

On behalf of the family I would like to say a big thank you to everyone in the athletics world who have sent cards, messages of condolence and donations. We were overwhelmed with the number of people who came to show their respects and to say goodbye to a wonderful man. May he be remembered by all for years to come. Thank you from The Gledhill Family xx

By **Julie Chapman(nee Gledhill)**

- Added: 11/04/2008 12:47:27

I was so sorry to read Athletics Weekly and learn that Frank had passed away. Mike really enjoyed meeting up with Frank at Inter- County and Northern Athletic events. They both had a lot in common in their commitment to athletics. I am sure they are both up there putting the world of athletics right and organising some sort of event. My condolences to his family and friends.

By Joyce Bundy

- Added: 11/04/2008 19:49:03

Big Frank was a Great man. He epitomised all that is great about life and great about athletics. He was a selfless man, who spent much of his life helping others. Not only did he dedicate his time to coaching, but he also managed to find time to be involved in the administration and organisation of athletics within Yorkshire, such was his passion. He knew how to be serious at times and he also knew when to joke around, but that's just because he was still a big, daft kid at heart, and that's why I believe he was able to relate to the younger athletes. He was a very loyal and kind friend to many. Frank was for me the stereotypical Yorkshire man – Strong and Proud, Warm, Friendly and Fair, and just occasionally a bit 'bloody minded' It is fair to say that Frank inspired generations of athletes. There are only a handful of people who ever come into your life, and have such an impact. Frank was one of these people for me. He was extremely well respected and loved by all who had the honour and privilege to meet and work with him. Finally on behalf of Yorkshire's athletes, coaches, and officials, past and present, I would just like to say Thanks Frank, were all gunna miss you kidda! By Steve Minnikin, Hammer, Ex GB International

By Steve Minnikin

- Added: 11/04/2008 21:22:47

Grandad even though i aren't showing it as much as others, i still do miss you just as much and cry just as many tears. Im trying to stay strong for you, because i know you wouldn't want to see me cry. Its just hard for me to come to terms that you'll never be there again, you'll never give my my raspberry kisses or squeeze me till i can hardly breath or be there at a football game to tell someone of if they injured me! I will keep them memories as close to my heart as possible. You were always there to make me laugh! Your probably one of the only people that could make me smile even if i didn't want to! Yesterday it was so hard saying good bye. But grandad you didn't go alone as part of me went with you to that place above. I never knew my grandad was loved by so many people just shows how special you were and how many lifes you affected. As far as grandads go you couldn't of been a better one if you tried. Now i realise how lucky i was to have you. Everything i do i will do it my very best, and just letting you know grandad im going to dedicate it all to you. I hope i can make you proud! I love you and miss you so much. xxx

By Charlotte

- Added: 24/04/2008 17:14:23

I came into contact with Frank at an early age. He treated me as a son and was always there for me anytime anyday. He could be serious but he also had a playful, fun and happy side to him. He would encourage me when I competed in athletics meetings around Yorkshire both for school and for Longwood Harriers and Spenborough AC. He would push me and encourage me during training, no matter what the weather, he would be there for me. Later on in my life he remained a very good friend and a special person in my life. He attended my wedding, a day that was so special. We

shared jokes and often wound each other up, playing pranks on each other. He visited the hospital when my wife gave birth to our beautiful son. He was so proud of that little boy. The little boy has now grown to be 4 years old (nearly), and he knows how important Frank was in his life. As life went on I would see Frank at football matches, where he enjoyed watching Huddersfield Town. Great memories, special times. These are memories taht will stay with me forever. Four weeks has gone since you left us all, and the pain is still there and always will be. Thanks for being part of my life and for being my Special Dad, I love you and miss you. Love from your son Ian xx

By **Ian Gledhill**

- Added: 14/09/2009 12:01:45

I attended Spenborough Athletics Club in the 1970's Frank and his family were always very friendly and we had many a party at his house. Frank will be missed and was truly a great coach and friend to all athletes. Truly a good man. one of the best.
RIP from Janet

By **Janet Morrison**