



## Anthony "Tony" Ewart John Mitton

September 2, 1928 - April 28, 2023

Anthony "Tony" Ewart John Mitton decided to call it a day on April 28, 2023, at the tender age of 94 under the loving care of his wife Kathy, daughter Francesca, caregiver Alexah, the Big Bend Hospice team, and finally, his loyal dogs Louie and Joe.

Born September 2, 1928, in Birmingham, England, Tony lived in England, South Africa, France, Spain, Scotland and finally landing in Tallahassee, Florida.

As the family patriarch, he is survived by his wife of 40 years, Kathryn "Kathy" Mitton, his children, Alastair Mitton (Paulette), Nicola Wilson, Francesca Mitton (Javier), Michael Mitton (Shirley), Shaye Roland (Stew), Tamsin (Terry), 9 grandchildren, Joanna, Martin, Robin, Robert, Danielle, Jess, Jackie, Seth and Sarah and 6 great grandchildren Clark, Henry, Summer, Adelynn, Celia and Gabrielle along with innumerable nephews, nieces and cousins. He was preceded in death by his mother and father, Eric and Grace, his sisters Rose and Elizabeth "Liddy," and his daughter Oriana.

Educated at Cambridge, UK, with advanced degrees in Economics and

Modern Languages, his careers were multi-faceted. He ran the family hazardous chemical valve design and production business “Hunt and Mitton,” was in British army intelligence, was a politician, an editor and translator of books and an author in his own right, an actor, and a massage therapist. Tony’s massage practice was largely focused on caring for individuals with developmental disabilities and the truth was the individuals and staff adored him. He was very successful in his practice redefining the definition of massage therapy for the mentally challenged for the Medicaid Waiver Program.

As a civil servant, he was a grant writer for the Department of Corrections and served on Governor Martinez’s task force to develop solutions for recidivism. Ever humble, Tony changed the course of history by having a hand in saving Nelson Mandela’s life.

Known for his intellect, passion for reading eight books at once, and an all manner of interest in people, consciousness, and philosophy, he was at heart an ardent history buff, especially the juicy parts! He was an enthusiastic outdoorsman, in particular the British countryside, researching the Arthurian legend and searching for Camelot.

Fishing, both fly fishing in England, Ireland, and Wales, as well as offshore fishing in the Gulf of Mexico, remained a lifelong passion. To cast a rod, and fly fish on a river or lake with a ghillie patiently waiting for a stray hungry trout to find an interest in one of his special flies brought him joy and reminders of his childhood with his father. Tony loved to spend Carrabelle days on the water in “Sanity” off the coast of Dog Island with Kathy, family and friends

catching grouper for dinner.

Ever astute, Tony took advantage of a deal for an old Florida beach cottage looking out over the Gulf of Mexico. After adding, with the design help his daughter Oriana, a one-bedroom attachment with a large, screened porch, it became a true haven for he and Kathy, and they hosted many friends and family over a 40-year period. A steadfast friendship grew with the neighbors, Tim and Ellie, and numerous fun times were had, Julia Mae's Restaurant, and the Tiki Bar being the most memorable! Tony and Tim were in their element there. Possessing a raucous laugh, and a quick-witted sense of humor, Tony (and Tim) was famous for his unique performance in grass skirts on top of the tables; Tony reciting long poems from memory, in particular "Lord Lundy" and Tim "MCing" as only he could do to the chagrin of some family members, but the appreciation of other witnesses.

Last but not least, Tony loved his dogs over the years, especially Max, Sophie, Louie, and Joe. Sophie passed at 13 and Louie at 17 so there were many years of 'sharing love'. Tony understood and was published on his personal experience of Unconditional Love both giving and receiving. It is the only kind of love ultimately that dogs know how to give. It is no wonder then that they got along so well, and that Tony was loved by so many.

Friends and family are invited to join celebrate Tony's life at 11:00AM on Sunday, August 13, 2023, at the Retreat at Bradley's Pond, 9002 Bradley Road in Tallahassee, with a reception following. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in Tony's name may be made to Big Bend Hospice, 1723 Mahan

Center Blvd., Tallahassee, FL 32308.

Kelly Barber of Bevis Funeral Home (850-385-2193 or [www.bevisfh.com](http://www.bevisfh.com)) is assisting the Mitton family with their arrangements.

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

AUG 13. 11:00 AM (ET)

The Retreat at Bradley's Pond  
9002 Bradley Road  
Tallahassee, FL 32309

## Reception

AUG 13. 11:45 AM (ET)

The Retreat at Bradley's Pond  
9002 Bradley Road  
Tallahassee, FL 32309

# Tribute Wall

RO

“ *Walter and I (Ruth) were not aware that Tony had died so we are quite late in leaving a note of sympathy to Kathy and all his offspring. He was a charming, intelligent and warm friend and I hope he is now in his next re-incarnation which he tried so hard to get me to believe in. Maybe he's a sailor now or a Cambridge don. Either one would do him nicely.*

*Ruth O'Donnell and Walter Forehand.*

---

**Ruth O'Donnell** - January 22, 2024 at 08:34 PM

VA

“ In early 1965, I met Val in Johannesburg. We very quickly found that we had lots and lots in common and became friends.

Val invited me to visit her in Wellington Road, that beautiful Georgian home she shared with Tony and at that time with two of her brood... She was pregnant with Cheski at the time. It was of course a great joy to meet them all. Tony was so quintessentially English, a true foil for Val. She was an owl, he was a lark. I was lucky enough to be at Wellington road on the night of 12th June, so when Cheski arrived on 13th, Tony took me to see her the very next day.

Over the years, I remember discussions at the dinner table. I remember Tony driving us to outings in the surrounding country side. That first summer, Nic Nac was still in Joburg. Cheski a babe in arms, Ola often at D'HS...

Tony worked hard for the business. He was interested in many things, and eventually even in politics. The time he was standing as a Tory Candidate was a very strange time, as he and Val fundamentally disagreed about politics; many lively discussions ensued.

By the time the family, with Granny Mitton, decided to look for pastures new, Emma had been born. We visited Bahia Dorada in 1973, where Tony and Val were amazing hosts...for us, Emma and myself, it was a wonderful holiday.

We corresponded for the next few years. The Mitton girls eventually ended up in Forest Row, and for half terms, we would spend time at the Lake House. Ali was left in Spain.

Then, when Tony passed through London on the way to Findhorn, they stayed with me for a few nights. I was interested in his spiritual development and happy for him... Val did not like that, and so for a while she and myself became estranged. But Tony and myself continued to correspond and sometimes he would send me drafts of his writing. Always interesting.

When he left to go to the States, a time began when I did not have regular updates on his life, but enough to know what he was up to.

*Once Cheski ended up in Florida, too, a bit more regular contact was established.*

*Whatever happened, we were firm friends ever since we met...I miss him, but I am happy that his spiritual journey can now continue...Tony, we love you. May the universal love be with you always.*

---

**Vreni A.** - August 12, 2023 at 10:30 AM