

## **Peter Audley-Miller: Former Oxford antiques dealer and county councillor**



PETER Audley-Miller, a former antique dealer and former Conservative county councillor for Wheatley, has died at the age of 89. He lived in Wheatley with his wife, Marion.

He was born in 1919, at Catford, and attended Farnham Grammar School and St Bartholomew's, Newbury.

Before the Second World War, he worked for Barclays Bank in London, and during the war he joined the RAF Volunteer Reserve.

After serving on high-speed marine craft, he trained as a pilot, eventually becoming a staff navigation officer for the RAF at Kidlington.

He moved to Oxford in 1946 to start his antique shop, which was a feature of Oxford's High Street for more than four decades.

Throughout his career he specialised in antique porcelain, clocks and furniture.

Mr Audley-Miller was a familiar face among the region's antique dealers, and was chairman and founder member of the Oxford Antiques Fair, which ran every year in Oxford Town Hall from 1961 until the 1990s.

He represented the Conservative Party for Wheatley and Great Milton from 1973 to 1993.

He had stood for the division in 1970 with Major AA Miller, but votes for the candidates at the adoption meeting were tied at 27 each, and Mr Audley-Miller magnanimously decided to step aside.

Once elected to the county council in 1973, his key interests were education, sports and leisure, and conservation issues.

He was also a member of the Southern Sports Council and Southern Arts Council. Over the past 40 years he was a member of a variety of organisations in Wheatley.

He was chairman of Wheatley Parish Council during the 1970s. He was a governor of Wheatley Park School and Wheatley Primary School, a member of various charitable trusts in the village and chairman of the Merry Bells Village Hall Committee from the 1970s until his death.

His memorial service will be held on Thursday, February 26 at 3pm at St Mary's Church, Wheatley. Mr Audley-Miller leaves a widow, a son, a daughter and four grandchildren.