

REMEMBERING

Geoffrey Saunders

COURT, 1950 | 1933–2026



Portrait of Geoffrey

“An extraordinary connection with Dean Close, spanning more than eight decades.”

A LIFE OF LOYALTY AND GENEROSITY

A lasting legacy

It is with great sadness that we share the news of the death of Geoffrey Saunders (Court, 1950), aged 93. Geoffrey was a much-valued member of the Dean Close community and an exceptionally kind supporter of the Dean Close Foundation.

His generosity, commitment to education and enduring loyalty to the School have created opportunities that will benefit generations of Decanians.

AT A GLANCE

80+

years connected to Dean Close

100%

potential fee support

1948

undefeated Rugby Colts



1949, Rugby XV Photograph featuring G.L. Saunders (front row, fourth from left)



A young Geoffrey in his Dean Close uniform, pictured with the family dog



Geoffrey (pictured left) with fellow Old Decanian and lifelong friend Richard Huck, December 2025

SCHOOLDAYS, FRIENDSHIP AND FARMING

A lifelong connection

Geoffrey's affection for Dean Close began in his schooldays. His friendships endured throughout his life. Sharing a passion for farming, he and his friends formed a pig farming club, recorded in The Decanian in 1949. He was also a member of the School's undefeated 1948 Rugby Colts team.

A NAME WOVEN INTO THE SCHOOL'S FUTURE

Proceeds from Geoffrey's land at Stanford in the Vale have been committed to the Douglas Graham Humanities Centre. His contribution will be recognised within the new Centre, ensuring that his name and generosity remain part of the School's history.

His legacy will live on most importantly in the lives of the young people who will benefit from his kindness and foresight.

OPENING DOORS THROUGH EDUCATION

The Saunders Foundation Awards

Geoffrey's family had deep roots in farming in Faringdon, Oxfordshire. His decision to leave a farm to the Dean Close Foundation led to awards offering up to 100% support with school fees, particularly for young people from families connected with the rural economy.

WE REMEMBER GEOFFREY

With enormous gratitude and affection

His kindness, loyalty and foresight will continue to shape lives for generations to come.

HONOURING GEOFFREY'S MEMORY

We will be in touch in due course with details of an opportunity to come together to honour Geoffrey's memory, celebrate his lifelong connection with Dean Close and recognise the remarkable legacy he leaves for future generations.