

Gary Lester passes away

More sad news from the Ex-Players Association.



Some more shocking news for Wycombe Wanderers and the Ex-Players Association with the sudden and unexpected death of former goalkeeping legend Gary Lester. It comes only a day after the passing of another Blues' member, Dave Robertson.

A regular in both title-winning sides of the 1980s, Gary is second behind only John Maskell in the Blues' appearances chart as goalkeeper. His 521 games at Loakes Park puts him in twelfth spot in the all-time list. Over 11 years, he earned the plaudits from a legion of fans and a well-deserved testimonial against Spurs in 1989.

Those stats led to him picking up a WWEPA Lifetime membership which was originally announced in November 2019. Gary was still working as a volunteer for a charity in Romania and couldn't attend our annual dinner when his achievements were honoured that night alongside those of Bob Dell and Mark West, two other 80s heroes.

When he moved back to the UK to live in Largs in Western Scotland, Gary was delighted to travel down to Adams Park to receive his award and to find Bob was amongst the ex-players to welcome him 'home.' He received his award from Brian Lee, former manager and chairman during his stint at Loakes Park. Brian described Gary as an ideal club man, a loyal servant and a hugely consistent

goalkeeper who played a major role in the club's achievements for over a decade.

Today, Bob Dell was amongst old teammates shocked at the news of his passing. "We joined Wycombe at the same time, him coming from Chalfont and me from Prestwood – two local lads trying to make our name in the game. It was a great era in the club's history with two Isthmian League titles, a League Cup win, a run to the FA Trophy semi-final and a couple of Berks & Bucks Cup victories. Gary was instrumental in all of this."

Our thoughts with all of Gary's family at this sad time.