

Hearts Mourn the Passing of Pilmar Smith

Former Hearts director and vice chairman Pilmar Smith has died.

Born in 1931, Mr Smith was a staunch Hearts supporter all his life. He owned two bookmaker shops in Edinburgh and sponsored Hearts for several years.

In 1980 with Hearts struggling both on and off the field, Mr Smith became one of the club's major shareholders and was appointed to the board of directors in 1982. He was seen by many as the link between the board and the fans on the terracing.

Ten years later he was appointed vice-chairman before relinquishing the role in 1994 following Chris Robinson's take-over of Hearts.

Hearts present owner Ann Budge told the club's official website:

"One of the most rewarding aspects of my involvement in Hearts, has been the opportunity it has presented for me to meet some of the major legends associated with this great Club, whether players, managers, ordinary supporters or former directors. Pilmar was one such legend and one I came to know and to hugely respect. It was a privilege to meet such a genuine, caring man, who only ever wanted to do what was best for our Club. I will miss his sage advice and unwavering support. It was an honour and a pleasure to know him."

The Edinburgh Reporter sends its condolences to the family of Pilmar Smith.