



Norman Miller



Leading Scottish Bookmaker and former Chairman of the National Association of Bookmakers, Norman Miller passed away on 7 November 2019, at the age of 91, following a long illness.

Norman was the son of Harry Miller, one of Scotland's best known bookmakers in the post-war period. Norman took over Harry's Glasgow based business in the 1960s with shops across the west of Scotland. He maintained an on-course presence on all Scottish tracks, including No1 pitches at Hamilton, Kelso & Perth up until his retirement from the sport in 2007 at the grand age of 79!

Together with his family, racing was Norman's life. From the 1970s, he became closely involved in the politics of bookmaking and worked tirelessly to promote and protect bookies' rights. Together with Alfie Bruce, he achieved the landmark decision that enabled bookies to buy and sell their on course pitches - a move that involved years of negotiations with Parliament, the Race Course Association, Jockey Club & Tote. Norman was President of the Scottish Bookmakers Protection Association for many years and went to lead the BPA, he was Chair of NARBOL and in the 1990s Chair of NAB.

Norman was proud of his post-war National Service spent as a Lance-Corporal in the RAF, he read Astro Physics at the University of Glasgow and throughout his life was passionate about sport where he was active in boxing, skiing, water skiing and golf.

Loyal, good humoured and a brilliant mathematician, Norman's real stroke of luck was his 67 year marriage to his beloved wife Anne, from whose loss in 2017 he did not recover. He is survived by their five children, Iain, Harry, Keith, Dianne and Andrew.

Norman's family will warmly welcome his friends from bookmaking and horseracing to celebrate his life at Masonhill Crematorium, Ayr on Friday 15th November at 9.45am and later at Western House Hotel, Ayr Racecourse.