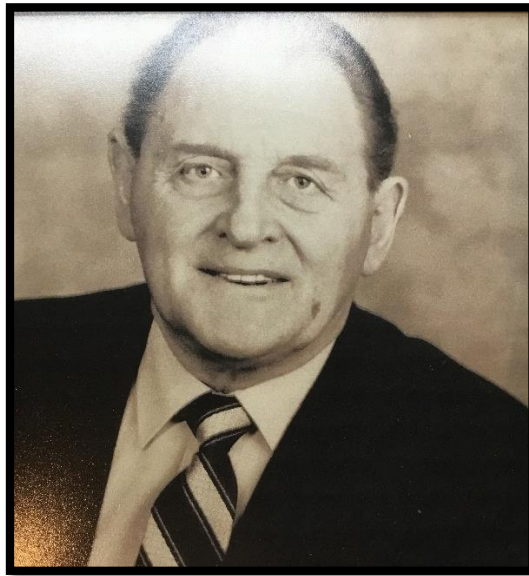




## DRAYTON MANOR HIGH SCHOOL

### JIM ROBERTS – ENGLAND RUGBY PLAYER

25 June 1932 – 1 November 2020



As the school celebrated its 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary we also learnt the news of the passing of one of our lesser known but no less distinguished alumni, Jim Roberts.

Jim joined Drayton Manor Grammar school in 1943 but left after two years as the Middlesex Education Committee had introduced a new scheme to fund more capable students to attend either Mill Hill or Harrow School. Jim went to Mill Hill where his sporting talent was quickly recognised captaining the Cricket First XI and being awarded with a rare and special recognition for his rugby performances.

Following National Service with The Royal Signals, Jim studied Engineering at Christ's College Cambridge and got three consecutive rugby 'blues' in the annual fixture against Oxford at Twickenham.

Jim won his first cap against Wales in 1960, which England won 14-6, with Jim scoring two tries in the game. He achieved a further seventeen caps between then and 1964, playing on the left wing where he was well known for his turn of speed. He also played for Sale for a number of years.

You can watch Jim in action playing in the England V Ireland match in 1962 by clicking [here](#).

Jim never had the opportunity to come back and visit the school. However, once we are able, we hope to invite his younger brother John, also a past student, to hear more about his brother's sporting career and also his own memories of Drayton Manor High School.

