Susan Marilyn Siddall (nee Mayer)   1951 - 2015

'Sue' was born on 15th May 1951 to George and Barbara Mayer, living in Formby until her marriage to Arthur in 1971. She won the 'best result' prize in her final year at Waterloo Park Girls Grammar School and left to work for the Royal Insurance Company in Liverpool.

In 1967 she attended a CMS Youth Camp in Jersey, and it was then that she committed her life to the service of God. She had begun youth work through her School community service programme and developed that at Holy Trinity Church, starting a monthly Service at the Maryland Old People's Home, with weekly Sunday night youth meetings.

Sue and Arthur were married in Formby by the Bishop of Liverpool, who was later to become Archbishop of York. They worked together in Childwall Valley, developing the new Parish of St Mark. They were already planning for service overseas and were commissioned by Archbishop Michael Ramsey in Lambeth Palace in 1973. They had prepared in Selly Oak, Birmingham, and went to Chittagong, Bangladesh.

Sue learned Bengali and started a 'self-help' project for the Bengali women, using old sewing machines collected by Liverpool Inner Wheel. It is now a seven-form School and Workshop. She returned to U.K. at the end of 1976 and Mark was born in the following January.

The Bishop of Blackburn invited Arthur & Sue to the Parish of St Paul, Clitheroe. Sue helped to run the Oxfam shop and led a music project "Sing Good News" for all the local Sunday Schools. Jennifer, their daughter, was born there in 1978.

When the large Parish of St Gabriel, Blackburn, became vacant in 1981/2, Archbishop Blanch asked them to take it on. Mark was 5 yrs and Jennifer 3 yrs. They thrived at the Voluntary Aided School (1982-90). Sue taught ESL to the Asian women and was a volunteer again at the Oxfam shop. She also 'advised' on the needs of clergy wives and the improvement of Vicarages. Yet again, she led a strong youth work, drawing in a team of volunteers, as usual.

1990 saw a big move to London, when Arthur was appointed to the major post at Missions to Seamen. That provided great scope for her energy and wide experience. She ran the School second-hand uniforms shop, was wardrobe assistant for the drama group, led the youth group, joined Mole Valley Social Services, and ran an annual holiday club for children with disabilities. She later became a Teaching Assistant for SEN children.

Bishop Alan Chesters invited Arthur & Sue to return to Blackburn Diocese in 1996, to the Parish of Chipping with Whitewell. During this period she was appointed Manager at Ribble Valley Crossroads. With the children away from home, she worked tirelessly in this rural community and felt very much 'at home'. It is not surprising that, in her death, they are welcoming her back to 'rest' among them.

From their earlier experience of overseas service, there was always a possibility that again they would volunteer. Final destination – *Naples.* Sue revelled in that work: senior NATO personnel, formal gatherings, and acting as a liaison with 4 branches of Alcoholics Anonymous. She started a branch of Mothers' Union for the Nigerian women in Padua and gained her Italian GCSE. Arthur's work as Archdeacon required great support and that is what Sue provided. ALWAYS – 'Open House' and hospitality.   In 43 years, nine different houses became nine 'homes'.

When they retired back to Formby, Sue volunteered as a Case Worker for SSAFA, drawing on her life's many experiences. For that work she was made the Lord Mayor of Liverpool's "Volunteer of the Year 2015". Those 5/6 years were full of activity, enjoying the growth of grand-children, Sophia and Thomas, and the birth of Daniel. She was able to spend time with her mother and sister. It also meant that she could attend her Parish Church as a member of the congregation, and together as husband and wife.

'Family' was foremost throughout her married life. She read avidly, loved music and theatre and the arts, and encouraged her children in their appreciation.

She loved her Church, her Queen, her Country.