

Liam Maloney

I was born at The Lodge, Dungar on March 26th, 1941. The eldest of a family of four I have three sisters. My parents were the late William and Sarah Maloney. My father came to Dungar as caretaker of the cemetery in 1938 and married a year later. He remained caretaker until his death in 1982. I then succeeded him having been appointed secretary to Dungar Joint Burial Board in 1979. I am the first to be secretary and caretaker at the one time.

We all went to Dromakeenan NS where our teachers were the late Miss K. Fallon, and Mrs F. Doyle and latterly Mrs. J. Power. Then on to the Vocational School spending some time in the old school at Damer House and the remainder at the new school on Corville Road.

In 1957 I went to Hartnetts in Rosemary Street to serve my time to the drapery trade. It was to be a long stay - 32 years in fact. I left to manage *Suits and Casuals* in Main Street in 1989. When the owner of that business retired in 1996 I took over the business trading as *Maloney Menswear*. It has gone very well for me, Thank God. That being said, going into business in your 50's can be daunting and not something I'd advise anyone to do.

Managing a business and a cemetery gives me very little spare time. I've often said a family with 10 children would find it easier to get away on holiday than I do. Any spare time I do get, I use to go racing, a sport I love. I also like my days in Croke Park, read a little, keep abreast of current affairs and do a bit of gardening. I also have a passion for good food and good restaurants.

To some people I suppose it may seem a strange place to live and a strange way of life. To be born, live your life and hopefully die in the one house and that within the walls of a cemetery, is I'd say very rare. I'm very happy here. My heart and soul is in the place and eventually the rest of me will too.

In my 60 years I've seen a lot of ups and downs here, joy and sorrow. It was my memories of the burials of the wretched and poverty stricken of the 40's and 50's that drove me to finally achieve my lifelong ambition to erect a decent memorial to their memory at Dungar. Hopefully I'll retire here in a few years, DV. There are many things I need to do before I finally buzz off. They will probably say "He didn't go very far."



Liam Maloney at Dungar Cemetery.