

Just an Ordinary Retiree

About the author



Barry John Page was born in the University College Hospital on November 25th, 1945 and raised by his parents in Islington, North London. He lived at Nos. 128 and 120 Liverpool Buildings, Highbury Station Road, Islington, from 1945 to 1967, and started school at Laycock Infants and Junior Mixed, Laycock Street, Islington (1950-1957). Graduating through the eleven-plus examination with sufficient marks to enter Central secondary schools, he continued at Barnsbury Secondary School for Boys, Eden Grove and Camden Road, Islington, and left in 1962 with one RSA and four GCE 'O' level school leaving certificates.

He progressed through several clerical positions for five years with International Harvester Co. Ltd., in City Road, London, and finished his time there as an advertising copywriter. Studying at night college, he acquired two more GCE 'O' level certificates. Then on November 5th, 1967, he left home and moved to Coventry in the industrial Midlands of England to start a career in technical writing at Coventry Climax Engines Ltd. in the Technical Publications Department; qualifying with a City and Guilds certificate (Pass with Credit) along the way. In April, 1970, he moved to Product Support Graphics Ltd., which merged with Rolls Royce Ltd. (Industrial & Marine Division) in Ansty, Coventry, writing technical manuals for gas turbine engines.

Aspiring to an earlier ambition, he emigrated to Canada on November 4th, 1973, and continued writing technical publications for United Aircraft Ltd. (now Pratt & Whitney Canada Ltd.) aero gas turbine engines. His last career move was to Champion Road Machinery Ltd. (which became Volvo Motor Graders Ltd.) and worked there for 30 years researching and writing heavy construction equipment technical manuals, including a one year stint as a design draughtsman. On December 21st, 2005, he retired to private life at age 60.

He owned and operated his own freelance technical communication and desktop publishing business for 20 years and still uses his skills from time to time for small assignments and short articles. On July 12th, 1974, he married Monica Ann (née Papworth), a true Coventry kid from Broad Lane.

Just an Ordinary Retiree is his third autobiography, and can be considered a sequel to his introductory memoir, *Just an Ordinary Bloke*.
