Adam Lambert

SEFF remembers Adam Lambert who was murdered 31 years ago today (9th November 1987) by loyalist terrorists in a supposed retaliation attack for the Enniskillen Popp Day massacred. Adam was aged just 19 years when he was murdered.

Adam was the youngest of four children to Brian and Ivy Lambert of Ballygawley. He had a happy childhood and loved nature, particularly his cats and dogs. Like his brothers and sisters, he was taught to swim at the age of 6 or 7 in the nearby Martray Lough by his father who had erected a diving board there.

Adam attended Innismagh Primary School where his mother later became principal. He then went to Dungannon Royal School where he was a meticulous student and became a prefect. Adam was an all round sportsman and won many prizes and cups in games and athletics.

He played football, snooker, rugby, golf, fishing and had become interested in karate, he was due to go to a training camp in England when he was murdered. He really loved Rugby and played for the 1st fifteen, he returned home from college every weekend to play for the Dungannon Club, there is indeed a Rugby memorial to Adam in the school.

He was always a peacemaker and at one stage attended a Peace Camp in Norway organised by Nobel prize winning peace people, Betty Williams and Mairead Corrigan.

Adam went on to the University of Ulster to study Building Services, he had finished his first year. Part of his second year was to be spent on work experience, he joined a company known as Charles Brand and was working in the Highfield Estate on a landscaping project when on 9th November 1987 he was shot.

Loyalist terrorists went out looking for revenge for the Enniskillen Poppy Day bombing (the day before) but supposedly picked the ‘wrong target.’ After his death the University wrote a letter to his parents to say that he never missed a lecture and other students would borrow his notes. They are reported to have said that he would have obtained a good degree. Adam would not have known who was Roman Catholic or Protestant, he was completely non-sectarian.

Adam is remembered on SEFF’s latest Memorial Quilt, ‘A Patchwork of Innocents.’ The images used are; a Rugby ball and associated posts, the Royal School Dungannon insignia and his Prefects badge.

SEFF remembers the Lambert family today and every day