Jim Oldman 3rd April 1987

SEFF remembers Jim Oldman whose Anniversary is today. Jim was murdered 33 years ago on 3rd April 1987, by the Provisional IRA.

James, fondly known as Jim, served from the young age of 16 years old, firstly on the B specials and then he joined the UDR at its formation in 1970 and was in fact one of its' longest serving members.

Jim also worked in Jones’ Hardware Shop in Market Street, Ederney. It was while Jim was arriving to work that PIRA terrorists opened fire on his car. Jim had been giving a lift to his 12 year old cousin, Caroline Bratton who was going to meet her school bus. The gunmen ordered Caroline out of the car before they opened fire.

Jim was a single man who lived with his widowed mother at their home outside Ederney. He was also a member of Glassmullagh Orange Lodge and Colaghty Parish Church where he served on the Vestry. He enjoyed reading and had a great interest in football.

A Memorial to Jim was erected at Colaghty Church, Fermanagh and reads - "In proud memory of Corpl. T. Jim Oldman, 4th (Co. Fermanagh) Btl Ulster Defence Regiment who died in ambush at Ederney on Friday 3rd April 1987 aged 39 years. This memorial was placed here by his comrades in 'D' Coy."

Jim's commitment to the Community, to the Country and to Christian Values was in stark contrast to the evil actions of those who took the decision to extinguish his life.

SEFF's thoughts and prayers are with Jim's nearest and dearest this day and every day.