Samuel Gault

Retired RUC Sgt Samuel Gault was murdered 31 years ago today as a result of the Enniskillen Poppy Day Massacre committed by PIRA terrorists on 8th November 1987. He was aged 49 years.

Samuel was born in Larne and was one of three children. After School Samuel served his time as an apprentice electrician before joining the RUC in 1958, he served in County Armagh and Belfast before moving to Fermanagh where he spent the bulk of his career, including 18 years as Sergeant. He had only retired 18 months prior to being murdered.

Samuel was married to Gladys (nee Clarke) and they had two children, Keith and Stephen. Before his death Samuel was an active member of the British Red Cross, he also belonged to the Masonic and the Orange Order.

Sharing his testimony within the 2011 SEFF Publication ‘I’ll Never Forget’ son Stephen painfully remarks: “I remember standing in the crowd in front of the Reading Rooms next to my Dad. To the other side of me was Ted Armstrong along with his son Clive. Dad was enjoying having the chit-chat and banter as Dad would have known Ted from working in the RUC. I remember a Policeman walking past us, he acknowledged us and as he passed by, I asked my Dad who he was as I hadn’t recognised the policeman - but I never got the answer”.

“It was just like wakening up in the middle of a horror movie, the eerie silence after the explosion, the dust filling my mouth ... I clearly remember looking to my side where my Dad had been standing next to me. He was lying at my feet but I knew straight away that he was dead”.

“To date since the Enniskillen bomb nobody has been brought to justice for their actions. That has caused a lot of hurt and pain”.

Samuel is remembered on SEFF’s first memorial Quilt; Your Legacy Lives On .. The RUC symbol was chosen for the patch as Samuel was proud to have served in the RUC and wore the uniform with pride.

SEFF remembers the Gault family today and every day.