

Devoted elderly couple from Portsmouth died of Covid-19 in Queen Alexandra Hospital just two days apart

TRIBUTES have been paid to a devoted couple who both died from Covid-19 just two days apart after having been married for 74 years.

Les and Jean Hanks, 97 and 93, were admitted to Queen Alexandra Hospital last month due to 'age-related medical conditions'. After both contracting Covid, Jean passed away on January 31 with Les succumbing to the virus on February 2 – the same day fellow World War Two veteran Sir Tom Moore also died of the disease.

Family friend and fellow member of Portsmouth's Submarine Old Comrades Association, Peter Goodwin, said: 'They were very close as a couple and would always come to our dinners dressed to the nines. Jean was a very quiet lady but a strong character and Les would always wear his medals from his time as a submariner.

'They met at the Savoy Ballroom at Clarence Pier and as a young couple in the forties they were known for dancing the jitterbug. They

would enter competitions and became Portsmouth's jitterbug champions.



Les and Jean Hanks had been married for 74 years but of Covid-19 at Queen Alexandra Hospital just two days apart

‘Despite struggling with Covid himself, Les was allowed to be with Jean when she passed away.’

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