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[www.healeyowners.co.uk](http://www.healeyowners.co.uk)



One of three sons to Donald & Ivy Healey, Brian 'Bic' Healey, second from right, joined the Royal Navy

## Brian 'Bic' Healey

28 July 1925 – 6 April 2014

This is a short tribute to Brian 'Bic' Healey who sadly died on April 6 at the age of 88 in St Austell hospital with his family by his side. Bic was a life-long motor enthusiast and a Life Member of the Association of Healey Owners.

Born in 1925 in Perranporth, Brian Healey earned the nickname Bic when he was a baby after his mispronunciation of the word biscuits or "bics". The name stuck for life, and as he much preferred it to Brian, so it feels appropriate to occasionally use it here.

## The second of 3 Healey sons

Brian was one of three sons - Geoffrey, Brian & John - born to Donald & Ivy Healey. After spending his childhood in Perranporth, Cornwall and leaving school at 17, Brian joined the Royal Navy as an Able Seaman. The 3 boys represented all three armed forces services: having qualified in engineering Geoff obtained a commission in the Army, John, the youngest joined the RAF and Brian volunteered for the Royal Navy in 1943.

He was drafted to a 'Woolworth Carrier' and spent much of his time during the Second World War serving on HMS Vindex, escorting convoys to Russia, in what Winston Churchill called "the worst journey in the world".



Geoff & Bic Healey drove a Cadillac-engined Silverstone in the West Cornwall MC's popular Trengwainton Hill climb (approx.) 64 years ago tomorrow on Easter Monday

## Awarded the Arctic Star medal

In 2013 year Bic was awarded the Arctic Star medal for his bravery in recognition of his bravery in helping protect the vital supply link to the Russian front. He was one of 66,000 Royal Navy sailors and merchant seamen who protected convoys carrying four million tons of cargo, including tanks, planes, fuel and food, to help Russia slow Germany's advances on the Eastern front. In total, 87 merchant ships and 18 British warships were sunk.



Bic, Peter & Tim Healey standing next to Dave Holman's Westland and John Keener's Abbott in 2009 at a HDC meeting in the Cotswolds

## Donald Healey Motor Co

Having left the Navy in 1947 Bic gained sales experience in the motor trade working for Truro Austin distributors HTP Motors. In 1952 he received a call from DMH following the début of the AH 100 at the Earls Court Motor show and joined his father at the Donald Healey Motor Company in Warwick. He work for DMH as sales director for the next 22 years. Bic soon met and married Mary, his wife of 60 years.



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## Tributes from the family

Brian's son, Peter, said: "He was a very loving family man. Like his father before him, he was a real people person. He was always the last one out of the bar in the evening and the first one down for breakfast the next morning. He was also very inventive and would turn his hand to anything. He was a very humorous man and he had a very sharp and quick wit."

Jonathan Healey, one of Bic's three children, said: "He was incredibly outgoing and had many friends all around the world. I think if Dad were offered another ten lifetimes he would say, 'I was really happy with the one I had'. He didn't have any enemies and he had a lot of friends and I suspect he had no regrets at all."

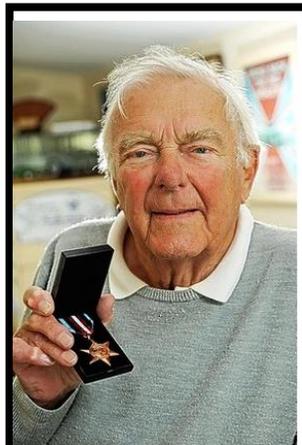
## Celebrating Bic's life

Bic was President of Healey's Cornish Cyder Farm at Penhallow so it was fitting to hold the celebration of Bic's life there. AOHO member and Chairman of the Austin Healey Club, John Keener was in attendance to raise a glass or two to Bic and he sent in the accompanying photographs.

## For the Record

Bic's funeral service took place on Wednesday 16th April at 3.00pm at the Parish Church of St Piran, Perranzabuloe, Penhallow at the church where his mother and father, Ivy & Donald are buried.

I'm sure our Vice Chairman, Peter Richardson will write a piece on Bic for the AOHO Gazette so please email me any tributes that you would like to add.



More than 60 years after peace was declared, Bic was awarded the Arctic Star



Bic presenting awards at the HDC meeting in Peranporth, June 1998



David Healey and Silverstone D31 celebrating Bic Healey's life at Healey's Cornish Cyder Farm at Penhallow where Bic was President



Peter Healey, Clive Baker and Marco Trevisan at Healey's Cornish Cyder Farm at Penhallow

To contact the editor of the Bulletin with urgent news please email [Tony Heyworth](mailto:tony_heyworth@yahoo.co.uk) at [tony\\_heyworth@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:tony_heyworth@yahoo.co.uk)