ROGER SAWYER

All

I received the attached card from Roger Sawyer's wife Di shortly after I had sent him a cutting from the Irish Political Review (attached) where Paul Hyde described as a mistake or 'error' a mention in Roger's 'Flawed Hero' book of the diaries or "diaries" being seen by Clement Shorter. Rather a minor point, overlaboured, but one that he would have liked to hear was under discussion.

Sadly, Di told me he had died in January, somewhat unnoticed.

I found a death notice (below) on the internet.

Many of us have good memories of Roger, notably from the Royal Irish Academy symposium of twenty years ago. Without him and the famous falling out with Angus Mitchell, some of our lives would have been very different.

Of course his writing on Casement started back in 1984 with *The Flawed Hero* (see attached cover) and continued with *Roger Casement’s Diaries – 1910: The Black & The White* 1997, which was the occasion for the dramatic and famous clash with his collaborator over their authenticity. From this, much of the later work and continuing interest on Casement developed, heading off as we know in different directions.

He was the last of the authors who had met and interviewed some of those who had direct memories of Casement so his papers must contain a wealth of material.

Over the years and particularly in the writing and publication of my own two books on Casement, Roger was always ready to help with advice, documents and invaluable information. He was a great help on the 1911 diary which I published for the first time as his project had faltered.

I hope I gave some of it back.

Best wishes

Jeff

June 2020

SAWYER Dr Roger Martyn

Died peacefully on Saturday 11th January 2020 aged 88 years. Beloved husband of Di, adored father to Charles and Rupert and grandfather to Serena, Catherine and Marianna. Funeral service to take place at Holy Trinity Church, Bembridge on Thursday 23rd January 2020 at 1pm. Family flowers only, but donations, if desired, to Anti-Slavery International. All enquiries are being received by Weaver Brothers Ltd, Independent Funeral Directors, Bembridge PO35 5UE. Tel: 872598

Isle of Wight County Press, 17th January 2020