

Alexander Cameron KC **1963 - 2023** **An Appreciation**



Allan Alexander (Alex) Cameron KC died on 21 March 2023, aged only 59, after a long and courageous fight against pancreatic cancer.

Alex was considered to be one of the best silks at the Criminal Bar during his illustrious career, and was a hugely respected and inspirational head of these Chambers from 2010 until his early retirement through ill health in 2020.

Alex was called to the Bar by Inner Temple in 1986, after reading Law at Bristol University. He joined the chambers of Victor Durand QC, QEB, in 1987, shortly before it moved to its current location at Three Raymond Buildings, and remained there throughout his career. He took silk in 2003, at the early age of 39.

He was a leading practitioner and trial lawyer in all aspects of financial crime, acting in cases involving fraud, corruption, insider dealing, market abuse, money laundering and many other offences in the white collar arena. As a junior and in silk he was involved in some of the most notable cases of his time.

In 1991 he was picked by one of the leading white collar solicitors to represent a defendant in the Blue Arrow City fraud trial. In 1999, led by Sir John Nutting QC, he represented the former Cabinet Minister Jonathan Aitken who admitted perjury and perverting the course of justice. In 2001, together with Nicholas Purnell KC, he represented Jeffrey Archer, who faced charges of perjury and perverting the course of justice.

In October 2013, he appeared in the Court of Appeal in the first case before the English courts to be filmed since cameras had been banned in 1925. He was involved in many of the most complex cases of the era, including Euribor, Alstom and Unaoil, and defended the Pakistani cricketer Mohammad Asif against charges of match fixing.

Perhaps on account of his acting skills – he had trained as an actor in Paris and for many years appeared regularly on stage at the Edinburgh Festival – he was a gifted and natural advocate. He also had in abundance the rarely combined qualities of intelligence, courage and compassion. Highly personable and empathetic, he was very successful in front of juries, and was trusted and admired by judges.

Alex's many friends and colleagues at the Bar and on the Bench have paid tribute to his court presence, his fearless advocacy and his dedication to the interests of his clients, as well as his warmth, wit and generosity. His leadership of these Chambers was marked by the support and care he gave to its members.

Alex was also a great family man, and a loving and devoted husband and father. He leaves behind his wife, Sarah, also herself a successful lawyer, and their children Imogen and Angus. He will be missed enormously.