

Dad Tom set family example at school

A SCHOOL certificate from almost 90 years ago still has pride of place in the hearts of one family.

For Thomas Knight, from Littledean, was awarded a certificate of attendance having not missed a day's school between 1907 and 1914.

Mr Knight was born in 1901 in Littledean and went to the local school from the age of six.

He left to work in the pits at Eastern United in Ruspidge when he was 13.

Daughter Brenda, 56, from Milkwall said her father was always proud of his attendance record. Her memories were stirred by the report in *The Citizen* on Wednesday of young Elizabeth Hedges' impressive attendance.

Seven-year-old Elizabeth, from Tredworth, has not missed a day at Hatherley Infants School in three years.

Brenda said: "He always used to tell us about it when we were small. I think he did really enjoy school and liked all of his teachers - he was a very healthy man, he was athletic and played for all the local teams."

Brenda, the youngest of 10 children, said her father was quite a character right up until his death, aged 74.

"Although his name was Tom, his nickname was Doc," she said. "When he was in the mines he used to be in the St John Ambulance and attended all the injuries. I guess someone shouted it one day and it just stuck!"

by **Annelisa Macaulay-Lowe**

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remember Tom fondly.

"We were all strictly disciplined and we all have a lot of common sense - we get that from him," said Brenda.

The family still has the certificate presented to Tom in July 1912 by the Diocese of Gloucester. It states that he passed his examination in Religious Education with flying colours.

