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Over the Christmas holiday, you may have seen in the news about the sad death of Sir Richard Rogers. A former pupil at KHS, Sir Richard was an unconventional learner and found many aspects of his schooling a great challenge – yet he blossomed into one of the world’s most eminent architects, with the Millennium Dome and the Pompidou Centre amongst a dazzling array of other achievements which feature prominently on a glittering CV. A short tribute about Sir Richard from the school can found together with his obituary from The Times, below:

The Kingswood House community is sad to learn of the passing of one of its most eminent former pupils, Sir Richard Rogers.

After struggling with learning difficulties through school, which were entirely undiagnosed at the time, he trained in architecture and went on to design some of the most famous buildings across the skyline in London, Paris and New York.

Mr Duncan Murphy, Headmaster, commented:

*“Sir Richard Rogers typifies how unconventional genius can be misunderstood in schools. It is no secret that he had a difficult educational experience but his flair ultimately came to the fore in architecture, a medium that allowed his creativity to flourish. I have no doubt that Sir Richard was heartened to see how Kingswood House had evolved into a more inclusive environment, much better placed to meet the needs of an array of different learners - one of whom might just be inspired to follow his pioneering lead in the future.”*

A short obituary from [The Times](#) reads as follows:

Richard Rogers, the architect who designed the Millennium Dome, the Lloyd’s building and the Pompidou Centre in Paris, has died aged 88.

Lord Rogers “passed away quietly” on Saturday evening, a spokesperson said. His death was described as a “huge loss for architecture” by the American critic Paul Goldberger.

Born in 1933 in Florence, Italy, Rogers moved to London with his family in 1938. He trained at the Architectural Association School of Architecture in London before graduating with a master’s from Yale, where he met Norman Foster and developed an interest in the works of Frank Lloyd Wright. He would later describe Wright as “my first god.”

One of Britain’s best known architects, he rose to prominence for his work with Renzo Piano on the Pompidou Centre, which opened in 1977. As leading members of the then-controversial “High Tech” style, their work exposed the functional elements of buildings by placing lifts and air conditioning ducts on the outside.

Lord Rogers’ other designs included the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg, the Senedd building in Cardiff, London’s “Cheesegrater”, Terminal 5 at Heathrow Airport and 3 World Trade Center in New York, an 80-storey skyscraper on the site of the former Twin Towers.

He was knighted in 1991 and created Baron Rogers of Riverside in 1996, sitting as a Labour peer in the House of Lords.

His work attracted criticism from Prince Charles, prompting the architect to describe the heir to the throne as “architecturally ignorant”. More recently he clashed with the head of his professional association over the failed Thames garden bridge project, which he believed was “a great addition to London’s public domain” and “a magnet for visitors”.

When awarding him the Pritzker prize in 2007, the jury praised him for having “revolutionised museums, transforming what had once been elite monuments into popular places of social and cultural exchange, woven into the heart of the city”.

He received the Freedom of the City of London at Guildhall Art Gallery in 2014 in recognition of his contribution to architecture and urbanism.

Lord Rogers is survived by his wife Lady Ruth, sons Ab, Ben, Roo and Zad, his brother Peter and 13 grandchildren.