

Liverpool Echo Report Nov 26th A MEMORIAL service at Liverpool's Metropolitan Cathedral celebrated the life of a local legend.

Colonel Graeme "Paddy" Bryson, who died in September aged 99, enjoyed an incredible career which saw him serve as a soldier, before working as a lawyer, judge and author of historical books.

It was as a Liverpool judge he hit national headlines after becoming the first judge to be shot at in a UK court when he was overseeing a bankruptcy case against nightclub owner George Wilkie.



[Memorial of the Life of Colonel James Paddy Bryson OBE. Pics Jason Roberts](#)

He was awarded a Queen's Order for his bravery, which saw him tackle the gunman.

Col Bryson was commissioned into the Territorial Army in 1936 and went on to fight in the Second World War

He was also a prominent Catholic who received a Papal Knighthood and, having studied at Liverpool University, was made an honorary doctorate of law in December 2011.

The Colonel was also Liverpool and county president of the Royal British Legion.

The special service at the cathedral took place after hundreds of mourners attended his funeral in Little Crosby in October.

At the funeral Lord Lieutenant of Merseyside, Dame Lorna Muirhead DBE gave a touching tribute, describing Paddy as "a giant of a man who touched so many lives".

Among those attending yesterday's service was comedian Ken Dodd who paid tribute to his friend.

He said: "Paddy was a great man who did so much wonderful work all over Merseyside."

Long-time friend and former military man, Roy Bevan, said: "For 99 years old he was astounding. I think he crammed half a dozen lives into one lifetime – he was a true legend."