

JACK:

# 'I still see Jade's boys – they've grown into lovely men'

This Mother's Day lands on 22 March, which is also the 11-year anniversary of Jade Goody's death. Here, her widower Jack Tweed speaks about her teenage sons, Bobby and Freddie, and how he will mark the difficult day



**W**hile many families will be celebrating Mother's Day happily, Jack Tweed will be quietly paying tribute to his late wife, Jade Goody, who died from cervical cancer in 2009 aged 27, leaving behind her beloved sons Bobby and Freddie, who were just five and four at the time.

The boys – now 16 and 15 – have spent the past decade being brought up by their dad, TV host Jeff Brazier. Last year, Jeff told *Closer* that the anniversary of their mum's death is "always a really difficult time" as it "stirs up so much in them", adding, "You can see their behaviour is slightly altered as a result."

But after years of hostility between Jeff and Jade's widower Jack, who married Jade just a month before she passed, they have since put their feud behind them.

And Bobby – now a budding model – and Freddie have rekindled their relationship with their former stepdad, who lived with them for two years when he was in a relationship with their mum.

Speaking to *Closer*, Jack, 32, says, "I have seen the boys and I speak to them. On one occasion, Jeff came with them and we had a family lunch together, which was really

nice. Bobby and Freddie have grown into such lovely and polite young men. Jade would be so proud of them, and Jeff has done such a good job bringing them up."

Jeff, 40, banned Jack from seeing his sons following Jade's death, after he "went off the rails". In the following years, Jack "blotted out his pain" with wild partying.

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Now on the straight and narrow, Jack – who remains single and works as a builder in Essex – admits, "Jeff was probably right to do that."



He and Jade first met in 2007 and married at Down Hall Country House in Essex just weeks before her death. A then-little known Mark Wright was Jack's best man, and Jade described the ceremony as the "happiest day of her life". She heartbreakingly told her guests, "Now, I'm ready to go to heaven."

At the time of her death, Jack was just 21, and held her hand as she slipped away. But he says the pain of her passing is just as difficult now as it was then.

He says, "I think about Jade every day. She is never far away from my thoughts. I have so many special memories of her

– her laughter, the funny things she used to say and do. Jade was a big personality – a real one-off – and she was also a very loving person. I miss everything about her."

To mark her anniversary and Mother's Day, Jack says he will spend time at her grave and lay flowers. He adds, "Each year I try to bring myself to watch