

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF



GORDON (JOE) STAFFORD

10TH MARCH 1929 – 28TH JANUARY 2017

1.30PM, MONDAY 27TH FEBRUARY 2017

ELTHAM CEMETERY CHAPEL



ORDER OF SERVICE

MUSIC ON ENTRY

THE RISING OF THE LARK

H.M. WELSH GUARDS REGIMENTAL QUICK MARCH

PERFORMED BY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE WELSH GUARDS BAND

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

CHAPLAIN R.N.R. DOUGLAS F.M. PERKINS

PRAYERS

HYMN

GUIDE ME, O THOU GREAT REDEEMER,
PILGRIM THROUGH THIS BARREN LAND;
I AM WEAK, BUT THOU ART MIGHTY,
HOLD ME WITH THY POWERFUL HAND;
BREAD OF HEAVEN, BREAD OF HEAVEN
FEED ME TILL I WANT NO MORE;
FEED ME TILL I WANT NO MORE.

OPEN NOW THE CRYSTAL FOUNTAIN
WHENCE THE HEALING STREAM DOTHT FLOW;
LET THE FIRE AND CLOUDY PILLAR
LEAD ME ALL MY JOURNEY THROUGH:
STRONG DELIVERER, STRONG DELIVERER;
BE THOU STILL MY STRENGTH AND SHIELD;
BE THOU STILL MY STRENGTH AND SHIELD.

WHEN I TREAD THE VERGE OF JORDAN,
BID MY ANXIOUS FEARS SUBSIDE;
DEATH OF DEATH, AND HELL'S DESTRUCTION
LAND ME SAFE ON CANAAN'S SIDE:
SONGS OF PRAISES, SONGS OF PRAISES,
I WILL EVER GIVE TO THEE;
I WILL EVER GIVE TO THEE.

BIBLE READING
ECCLESIASTES CHAPTER 3 1-8

READ BY COLOUR SERGEANT RICHARD HUNTER, WELSH GUARDS BAND

REMEMBERING JOE

COMPOSED BY STEPHEN DAVIES

PERFORMED BY THE EYNSFORD CONCERT BAND CLARINET QUARTET

HE'S GONE

DAVID HARKINS 1959

READ BY DAVID WALKER, EYNSFORD CONCERT BAND

YOU CAN SHED TEARS THAT HE IS GONE
OR YOU CAN SMILE BECAUSE HE HAS LIVED.

YOU CAN CLOSE YOUR EYES AND PRAY THAT HE'LL COME BACK
OR YOU CAN OPEN YOUR EYES AND SEE ALL HE'S LEFT.

YOUR HEART CAN BE EMPTY BECAUSE YOU CAN'T SEE HIM
OR YOU CAN BE FULL OF THE LOVE YOU SHARED.

YOU CAN TURN YOUR BACK ON TOMORROW AND LIVE YESTERDAY
OR YOU CAN BE HAPPY FOR TOMORROW BECAUSE OF YESTERDAY.

YOU CAN REMEMBER HIM AND ONLY THAT HE'S GONE
OR YOU CAN CHERISH HIS MEMORY AND LET IT LIVE ON.

YOU CAN CRY AND CLOSE YOUR MIND,
BE EMPTY AND TURN YOUR BACK
OR YOU CAN DO WHAT HE'D WANT:
SMILE, OPEN YOUR EYES, LOVE AND GO ON.





HYMN

AND DID THOSE FEET IN ANCIENT TIME
WALK UPON ENGLAND'S MOUNTAIN GREEN?
AND WAS THE HOLY LAMB OF GOD
ON ENGLAND'S PLEASANT PASTURES SEEN?
AND DID THE COUNTENANCE DIVINE
SHINE FORTH UPON OUR CLOUDED HILLS?
AND WAS JERUSALEM BUILDED HERE
AMONG THOSE DARK SATANIC MILLS?

BRING ME MY BOW OF BURNING GOLD!
BRING ME MY ARROWS OF DESIRE!
BRING ME MY SPEAR! O CLOUDS, UNFOLD!
BRING ME MY CHARIOT OF FIRE!
I WILL NOT CEASE FROM MENTAL FIGHT,
NOR SHALL MY SWORD SLEEP IN MY HAND,
TILL WE HAVE BUILT JERUSALEM
IN ENGLAND'S GREEN AND PLEASANT LAND.

THOSE WERE THE DAYS MY FRIEND

GENE RASKIN

PERFORMED BY STEPHEN DAVIES

OUR MEMORIES OF JOE

READ BY BRIAN LITTLE

DAFYDD Y GARREG WEN

(DAVID OF THE WHITE ROCK)

TRADITIONAL

PERFORMED BY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE WELSH GUARDS BAND

HYMN

ABIDE WITH ME: FAST FALLS THE EVENTIDE;
THE DARKNESS DEEPENS; LORD, WITH ME ABIDE:
WHEN OTHER HELPERS FAIL AND COMFORTS FLEE,
HELP OF THE HELPLESS, O ABIDE WITH ME.

I NEED THY PRESENCE EVERY PASSING HOUR;
WHAT BUT THY GRACE CAN FOIL THE TEMPTER'S POWER?
WHO, LIKE THYSELF, MY GUIDE AND STAY CAN BE?
THROUGH CLOUD AND SUNSHINE, LORD, ABIDE WITH ME.

I FEAR NO FOE, WITH THEE AT HAND TO BLESS;
ILLS HAVE NO WEIGHT, AND TEARS NO BITTERNESS.
WHERE IS DEATH'S DARK STING? WHERE, GRAVE, THY VICTORY?
I TRIUMPH STILL, IF THOU ABIDE WITH ME.

HOLD THOU THY CROSS BEFORE MY CLOSING EYES;
SHINE THROUGH THE GLOOM, AND POINT ME TO THE SKIES;
HEAVEN'S MORNING BREAKS, AND EARTH'S VAIN SHADOWS FLEE;
IN LIFE, IN DEATH, O LORD, ABIDE WITH ME.

LAST POST

LANCE SERGEANT STUART LAING, WELSH GUARDS BAND

COMMENDATION AND FAREWELL

PRAYERS

OUTGOING

MEN OF HARLECH

H.M. WELSH GUARDS REGIMENTAL SLOW MARCH
PERFORMED BY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE WELSH GUARDS BAND

A PRIVATE FAMILY COMMITTAL WILL FOLLOW

JOE'S FAMILY WOULD LIKE TO THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING THIS CELEBRATION AND FOR SHARING IN THE FOND AND LASTING MEMORIES WE ALL HAVE OF HIM.

WITH GRATEFUL THANKS FOR YOUR KIND DONATIONS IN AID OF THE GREENWICH & BEXLEY COMMUNITY HOSPICE.

FOLLOWING THIS SERVICE, PLEASE JOIN US AT
THE FALCON PUB (HARVESTER)
OPPOSITE FALCONWOOD STATION.



Joe and Irmgard's Wedding Day, May 1956. This was the first time Joe wore his Welsh Guards tunic. To the right of the photo is Ralph Vaughan Williams, who gave Irmgard away, together with his wife, Ursula.