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Russell J. A. Alton

12 November 1924 - 12 April 2008



"My Daddy - always in my mind, forever in my heart"

Michèle

"Dad, you really were the best. Thank you for being my Dad"

"My Father, my teacher, my companion, my friend"

Wayne



→ Suited at 14
So proud of Dad, in his suit at the age of 14, 1938





← In uniform

Dad in uniform, serving in the Royal

Corps of Signals, 1942



↑ **Dad, with proud Mum and Dad**Dad with his Mother and Father - 17 September 1942

Thanks to all my good friends

For being there when needed

As for my children, don't cry for me

I loved you dearly and very proud of you all

I will still be there for you

The warmth of the sun on your back, the wind in your hair

You will know that I am there, watching over you

Problems, speak to me - you will hear the answer

Take care and love one another

So don't cry for me

I had a good life and enjoyed your company

It's like a new day is dawning

Enjoy it to the full

Love and care for each other

~ written by Dad in 2006, discovered in 2008





All Is Well

Death is nothing at all
I have only slipped away into the next room
Call me by my old familiar name
Speak to me in the easy way which you always used

I am I and you are you
Whatever we were to each other that we are still
Put no difference into your tone
Wear no forced air of solemnity or sorrow

Laugh as we always laughed at the little jokes we enjoyed together Play, smile, think of me, pray for me

Let my name be ever the household word that it always was

Let it be spoken without effect

Without the ghost of a shadow upon it

Life means all that it ever meant
It is the same as it ever was
There is absolutely unbroken continuity
What is death but a negligible accident

Why should I be out of mind because I am out of sight?

I am but waiting for you, for an interval

Somewhere very near

Just around the corner...

All is well

Canon Henry Scott-Holland, 1847-1918, Canon of St Paul's Cathedral



We would like to thank Brian and Roz from Stoneman's, for their kind and compassionate handling with all aspects of the funeral arrangements.

Stoneman Funeral Service, 11 Shelvers Hill, Tadworth, KT20 5PU. Tel. 01737

We would also like to thank Donna and the guys at CMYK for their professional and quick service (and their prices are excellent too!)

CMYK Digital Print Solutions, 163 Stafford Road, Wallington, SM6 9BT. Tel. 020

ORDER OF SERVICE

Music on entering

"Softly As I Leave You" by Matt Monro
Dad's favourite Matt Monro song

Introduction, Welcome and Opening Prayer

Father Donald

A Message From Dad

A passage, written by Dad and read by his son, Wayne

Music

"Morning" Peer Gynt Suite by Grieg

Dad's choice of classical music for this service

The Reading

Father Donald

Dad - Thank you

A personal reading reflecting some of the memories of a father by his son, Wayne

The Address

Father Donald

The Committal

Music on leaving

"You Make Me Feel Brand New" by The Stylistics

This record was Dad and Bet's song

Dad, I don't know how to put into words the loss that I feel. A light has gone out inside of me. You really were the best Dad in the world... the one constant in my life... always there to guide me. I'm so lost now. You were more than a Dad and I could always talk to you about anything and everything. You were always there for a chat, a cuddle or sometimes just to sit with you.

I wish I could sit with you again. My heart is broken without you.

"I love you so much, my Daddy. Best in the world."

Michèle

Dad, where do I begin? I don't even know how to live my life without you in it? Dad, you had such a special understanding of me... you always knew what to say and how to comfort me when I needed you the most. Sometimes I just needed a magic hug from you. When I lost Billy and my heart was broken, you gave me courage and strength and guided me through the terrible pain that I was feeling. You did make me strong Dad, but I now realise that the strength that you gave me only works when I have you with me. I don't think my heart will mend this time. I love and miss you so much. You were the sweetest, kindest Dad ever. I am truly blessed to have had you as my Dad. Always in my heart, your daughter,

Nikki

Dad, as more and more people express their sympathy, I realise just how close we all were. But how will we manage without you? Well, we have found some of the tools of life that you have left for us Dad; your ability to listen and advise without judgement and your amazing 'mind over matter' attitude, particularly with health issues, have paved the way. We are still learning how to use them though. We are also confident that one day, the sound of your laughter will clear away the tears, making it possible to see ahead once more.

Wayne

To my best-est mate

I am going to miss the stories you used to tell me and the times that we used to play along to the TV quiz, The Eggheads (you always beat me). Playing with Ele, having Tidgy Toads and chips and a slice of Vienetta for pudding. The part I will miss most is after I'd gone to bed, you would come and say goodnight to me and I would wake up in the morning to the sound of your alarm clock. I'm going to miss your voice on the other end of the phone telling me when another martial arts epic is going to be on. Forever in my heart, love you mate.

Anthony

Russell was like a father figure, full of knowledge, loving and considerate and just like a story book with his wonderful tales and adventures. I will miss our shopping trips and stories on the phone. Like all good stories and tales, they always pass down the generations and continue to grow and be remembered, just like you Russell.

Jezz

Papa Smurf, I didn't know you that long but what a pleasure it was to be part of your family. You really were an amazing man. I will miss your funny jokes and chats on the phone. You will always be remembered, love *Caiger*

So many happy childhood memories together and then more recently, I shall miss his phone calls and saucy jokes.

David

"What do you say about a man who a little over fifty years ago spent a week of his precious evenings teaching an enthusiastic seven year old to balance on and ride a two wheel bicycle, then leave it until the following week-end to fix the brakes!" (I've still got the scars!). 'Russell' you will be missed far more than you ever dreamed you would be.

Michael & Rose

"And how is my Northern girl today?"

Words I will never hear again. Your phone calls will be greatly missed. It was always nice to hear your voice and know you were thinking of us.

Lots of love from your Northern friend

Our Pops, to have a friend as dear as Pops was a wonderful gift to us. He was always there to help and give advice and nothing was ever too much trouble for him. We had some lovely times together, especially going to the coast in the camper van.

Pops leaving us will leave a big hole in our lives but all the memories we have collected over the past 20 years will stay in our hearts forever. He will never be forgotten.

God bless you Pops, all our love

Andrew, Jackie and Family

Grandad, I will never forget how special you used to make me feel when I would be playing out on the field and you would come watch me. I was always doing random dances and gymnastics, in a way just showing off in front of you just because you would always say how clever and special I was. On more than one occasion you called me into your house and went straight to the fridge and gave me a Kit Kat. It felt like the biggest treat to me as I rarely had chocolate, you would always say the nicest things to me, and I will never forget how special you made me feel. I love you Grandad.

Kelly

Russ, It is hard to believe that you have left us. I thought you would go on forever. You ignored the advice of the experts and lived life as you wanted. You ate what you fancied and smoked all your life.

You are an inspiration to me. I have so many memories of you that span the 27 years I have known you.

These are some of the random ones:

When I was about 15, you pricing up all the stuff I needed to refurbish my shed in Byron Gardens, courtesy of the Wickes catalogue and it coming to hundreds even then.

Going around Durand Close trying to get your van to fire on more than one cylinder.

Me wiring in a radio into your Maxi and the wires melting and catching fire and the way you hid your surprise! That really makes me laugh.

You borrowing my Opel Ascona for the day, but taking me to Hackbridge at 5.30 in the morning in the snow.

The cold gravy made with all the juices on Boxing Day that I loved.

You telling me to taste my food before putting salt on it.

I have so many memories of you. All of them without exception are pleasant. Just when I think I have recalled all that I remember, another adventure races into my mind.

I will enjoy my happy memories of you and treasure each one as they go parading past.

Thank you for your kindness over all these years. I will miss you.

Pete

To Grandad, I would like to thank you for all of the time you have given me over the years, always teaching me new things and showing me how to be strong whenever things went wrong. I already miss you loads but thinking of all the great memories we shared helps to keep me positive... one of my favourites being our Friday nights together. Me and you cuddled up in your armchair together with our cups of Bournvita, watching Beauty and The Beast. I loved the way you always took an interest in my life, always asking about new things I was doing and keeping you up to date with Alfie too. You always looked so proud of all of your family. You really were the best Grandad and Great Grandad we could have asked for. Thank you and I love you so much. All my love forever and always,

Zoe

Dear Grandad.

I cant believe that you have gone and even though I try, nothing will ever be the same. I miss you so much and it hurts when I think of my life without you, and to know that I will never see you again.

When I feel sad, I just think about all the lovely memories that I have of you and how you always made me laugh. You were so kind and thoughtful, forever thinking of others before yourself and I feel lucky to have had a Grandad like you. Every time I saw you, you would ask how things were at work and college. You always believed in me and I am going to work hard to do you proud. I no that you will always be with me and I will forever have you in my heart. I will try and give Ellie a good home and love her as much as you did.

Love you always

Stacey

Grandad, what a funny Grandad you were. You were always telling jokes and always took an interest in my life. I will miss and love you forever.

Charlie

83 years and not a harsh word... except for a blip in 1927 when you pulled the head off my doll. Andy, my kid brother!

Gwen

I have so many memories of my Dad and we discussed everything from horse riding, putting the world to rights, which medicines were any good (in our opinion) to food which Dad loved and in particular, dumplings, especially with lots of sugar and proper butter. He often used to ring and say: "Ooooh, lovely... guess what I'm eating?" "Well, dumplings Dad!" And now, I'll only hear that in my head. That and "I love you, darling... take care."

Lynda

Dear Russell, although we didn't know each other long there are many things I will remember you for... having a fag with you outside restaurants at family meals, your stories of your woodworking days always intrigued me, your jokes always made us laugh but mostly I will remember you for how happy you made Stacey and your family. I'm so glad I got to meet such a caring, happy and interesting man like you. Rest in peace mate, all my love,

Spencer



