

A Tribute and Celebration for the Life of



David Eric Seaman

29th July 1935 - 9th October 2021

Wednesday 24th November 2021

2pm

Herongate Wood Cemetery

Service led by James Cooper

Music on Entry:

“Rock Around The Clock” – Bill Haley & The Comets



Welcome and Introductions



Eulogy:

Written by Alan Purser



Musical Reflection:

“25 Minutes” – Johnny Cash



Closing Words

Poem:

“When Tomorrow Starts Without Me”

When tomorrow starts without me,
and I'm not there to see;
If the sun should rise and find your eyes,
all filled with tears for me;
I wish so much you wouldn't cry,
the way you did today,
while thinking of the many things,
we didn't get to say.
I know how much you love me,
as much as I love you,
and each time that you think of me,
I know you'll miss me too;
when tomorrow starts without me,
don't think we're far apart,
for every time you think of me,
I'm right here, in your heart.

Exit Music:

“Always Look On The Bright Side Of Life” – Monty Python

Interment Of Ashes

“Now the work is left to us, the living, to carry forth
the beauty and joy of that life which has been taken
from us. Where we weep, David would have us laugh.
Where we mourn, David would have us rejoice.
But we know that he will forgive us our grief,
for to grieve is to love, to love is to cherish,
and to cherish is to give praise and
thanksgiving for the life which has blessed us all.”

The family welcomes everyone to join them
in celebrating David's life at
The Springhouse Club,
Springhouse Road,
Corringham SS17 7QT



Donations in memory of David would be gratefully
received with proceeds going to
The British Heart Foundation

DAVID ERIC SEAMAN

David was born in 1935, a period of relative calm, then 4 years later, came the storm, the beginning of the Second World War. Personally speaking, I was born in 1941, a period of bombs and air raids, then 4 years later, came VE day and relative calm.

My earliest recollections of David began another 4 years later during a world of ration books and there being not a lot of money about in those days. He was my older brother along with John who was couple of years older than David and I looked up to them. (I knew my place!!)

I remember David was a kind brother and I don't recollect all of the things he did but can vividly remember one day he was ill and in bed. The ambulance men came and carried him down the stairs like a baby in arms, him with his night shirt on which was flapping around a skinny bum. It transpired that he had recently been swimming in the Exmouth, a "high class" swimming pool in Grays, and had then gone swimming in the Thames! His experience taught us to never do that and we never did. The water of the Thames was not renowned for high class water in those days and David had gotten sick with pneumonia is what I remember. Howard seems to think it was scarlet fever and remembers him being in the wooden hospital at Tilbury.

In our local church, St Clements, he used to pump the organ for the services and as I discovered later when I did the same, you got four and sixpence a month for that and only three shillings for singing in the choir! I've mentioned the lack of money in those days and I can say David was not a lazy boy and worked where he could to earn and amongst his enterprises as a young boy was doing a paper round 7 days a week, plus working for

our local butcher delivering for them and whilst there he started to learn the trade.

As he got older and left school I seem to recollect he went to work for a butcher. At the tender age of 18 he was presented with an offer he couldn't refuse so he enlisted in Her Majesty's Army and joined the Catering Corp., no flies on him! Now he was Mummy's little soldier! He spent the majority of his time in Egypt and regularly corresponded with Mum during that time. I heard stories of holidaying in Cyprus, catching dysentery, the odd scrap or two between soldiers in bars which he just observed as I understood it. He was de-mobbed in October 1955 and along with the customary de-mob suit he had acquired through dealings 2 other suits, numerous watches, (these he smuggled in past customs strapped to both his arms. He had noticed they searched every tenth person so he made sure he wasn't one of those, "he who dares") there were also shirts, and made to measure shoes, (including a pair of "brothel creepers") Now David Del Boy Seaman was let loose on the world and he resumed his job at Dewhurst's in Grays high street.

One day he bought home a young lady for us to meet. Her name was Stephanie Smith. Now was the time of decadent Rock 'n Roll, Bill Hayley, drain pipe trousers and the Jive. which Steph and our teddy boy practiced, on Mum's front room floor. They were married in 1957 and first went to live in Charles' Caravan Park in Laindon. Keeping with his line of work they had moves to Malmesbury in Wiltshire, and Merriot in Somerset before returning to live in Grays. By now they had their two children, Clifford and Jackie, and Jackie delights in the fact she wasn't born an Essex girl! David had now deviated from his trade and worked as a taxi driver.

He treated his children both the same and fairly. There was a time when, and not for the first time, Jackie bunked off school with her mates. As they were walking along street she met her father going the other way he said hello and walked on. Jackie thought she would be in deep trouble when she got home but nothing was said and she was relieved. Clifford, funnily enough, bunked off school one time and popped along to see his Granny and sit with her. She told him of the death of her brother Steve which had happened suddenly and recently. He couldn't say anything to his mum and dad as it would give his little game away. A day or so later his father also popped in to see his mum who said to him, "Didn't Clifford tell you about Steve!!" Later that day when Clifford got home he was confronted with the fact of bunking off school and was violently re-introduced to his father's belt!! It might seem that the two children were treated differently but lovely young Jackie was open about it whereas Clifford had tried to deceive his parents now wouldn't you all agree?

In 1968 David started work with a Chemical company in South Stifford and remained there until his retirement in 1993. Now he indulged in his favourite past time of fishing with the odd casual part time work. He enjoyed military bands, country & western, he had 40 to 50 cassettes of rock 'n' roll along with recordings of the old radio comedies like Round the Horn, the navy lark, the goon show, Hancock's half hour etc. Etc..

During his lifetime David was an avid collector of coins and notes, a selection of top motor car models and the aforementioned watches. Dealing with these legacies will be a more pleasant task than arranging this service today. My sincere thanks go to Clifford and Jackie for this and I am sure my brother would be delighted in you both.