



CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF

Ann Hiley

11TH NOVEMBER 1946 - 7TH DECEMBER 2020

The Dash

by Linda Ellis

I read of a man who stood to speak, at the funeral of a friend
He referred to the dates on the tombstone, from the beginning... to the end

He noted that first came the date of birth and spoke the following date with tears,
But he said what mattered most of all was the dash between those years

For that dash represents all the time, that they spent alive on earth.
And now only those who loved them know what that little line is worth

For it matters not, how much we own, the cars... the house... the cash.
What matters is how we live and love and how we spend our dash.

So, think about this long and hard. Are there things you'd like to change?
For you never know how much time is left, that can still be rearranged.

If we could just slow down enough, to consider what's true and real
And always try to understand the way other people feel.

Be less quick to anger and show appreciation more
And love the people in our lives like we've never loved before.

If we treat each other with respect and more often wear a smile,
Remembering this special dash might only last a while

So, when your eulogy is being read with your life's actions to rehash
Would you be proud of the things they say
about how you spent your dash?

Order of Ceremony

'Angel Above my Piano' by Fiona Joy Hawkins



'Dash' by Linda Ellis

Read by Hilton Quigley



Euology

Read by Celebrant Will Tillotson



'Forever Young' by Rod Stewart



'When the days come' by Longfellow

Read by Cathy, Paula, Jenna & Gareth



A few short words by Gillian Holgate

Read by Paula Bullock



Committal and Closing Words

Read by Will Tillotson



'Going Home' by Mark Knopfler

*The music & poetry today was chosen by Ann herself
as they held a special meaning to her.*



Eulogy

Ann was born in Bridgend, South Wales on the 11th November 1946. A child of the post war baby boom, Ann recalled how at birth she was initially placed in a drawer due to the lack of a cot and was nearly called Poppy as she was a true Armistice Day Baby. From a young age she was an independent and sometimes wilful child who knew what she wanted and went for it! Nothing changed!

An early holiday to the Lake District with her friend Helen led instantly to the place becoming a big part of her life, a love that never diminished. An avid fell walker, she and Roger completed the Wainwright round on no less than three occasions meticulously documenting each summit rise in her extensive walking diaries. As such, it will be a fitting end that her remains will be scattered on Rannerdale Knotts, a mountain which she personally climbed over 50 times! This will also mean she rests alongside her beloved pets and allow her the opportunity to have that good catch up with her special retriever Harry that we know she longed for in recent years. It has been said 'in jest of course' that Ann's furry friends appeared higher in the pecking order than Roger & Co.! Her final request was that any donations made in her memory be made to her two favourite animal charities. Ann was generous in her donations and support of many charities that sought to help animals and became a real advocate for such causes.

Ann's education and career took her country-wide, starting with teacher training at Ilkley College of Home Economics where she met Pat Payne on day-one and so began a beautiful, enduring friendship. It was whilst living in Leeds that she honed her excellent homecraft and mothering skills, before moving to West Sussex for two years where she began her nursing career. A move to Loughborough allowed her to return to education to complete her training as a teacher and gain her B.Ed. It was here she met Hilton Quigley and another long-lasting friendship began. Her first teaching job was at

Garendon School in Loughborough. Now as a single mum she showed extreme spirit, grit and determination, becoming a superb teacher, raising Cathy and Paula beautifully and managing resources so well that each year she could take them on walking holidays to her beloved Lake District.

Ann relished the 70s (where her love of Rod Stewart began) including a fascination with jeans, head scarves, beads and for tie-dyeing everything purple. Commonly mistaken as three sisters, mum was intensely proud and protective of her girls. A chance holiday meeting with Roger on an Irish ferry led to her returning to Wales to begin a forty-one year happy marriage with the love of her life, setting up home and raising their family which grew to include Gareth and Jenna. She took a teaching position at Gowerton Secondary School, where she became close friends with Gill Holgate. A final move to Loweswater in 2002 saw Ann retire to The Lakes and become an integral part of this community.

Love, family and friendships were everything to Ann and she spoke very fondly of her friends and of the support they provided her throughout her lifetime. In return they will always remember the support afforded them by her. Those many friends were always welcome at Oak cottage and, over the years, Ann and Roger often met up with folk from all over the country to enjoy their love of the great outdoors! Ann was an excellent cook and there was always an open door - meaning that Hotel Hiley was never empty for long, the delicious cooking smells blowing across the Loweswater fields on many a day.

We, her family and friends will all miss Ann, but we also know that she will live on in our thoughts and hearts. Her children on occasion may choose to deny certain family traits but there is no doubt that they all share a lot of her qualities including her love of organisation and a good list, but most importantly her inner strength, loyalty and compassion.

Whilst Ann struggled with the cruelty of the disease and what was being taken away from her, she also reflected positively on the added memories she has made these past few months. A quote by Anaïs Nin and one close to her heart was that "life shrinks and expands in proportion to one's courage". Her bravery and courage towards the end was an inspiration. Knowing she achieved what she wanted in her lifetime has brought us peace. For us as a family we have come to realise that often you will never know the value of a moment until it becomes a memory. We certainly created plenty of these in her lifetime, memories we will cherish eternally.

Forever in our hearts, Dear Ann, Rest in Peace.



When the Days Come

When the days come that I must live alone in my own thoughts,
when my eyes are dimmed and cannot see the shadows on the hills,
when I cannot hear the far off sounds of hurrying streams and sheep,
then I will turn my mind to those great days we spent upon the hills,
and I will count over, one by one and treasure them as jewels,
no one can take from me.

Days when the sun was hot on rock and heath,
and I would lie far-up upon some ledge, hearing below those solemn murmurings,
the sad and incessant voices of the dales and smell the moss and bracken beneath my head,
I will dream then of little mountain flowers, the butterwort with slender purple blooms,
the sundew sticky with its catch of flies, the spongy mosses green and rusty red,
and the cotton grasses wearing silken plumes beside some lonely tarn high in the hills.

I will remember rain and bitter winds,
the feel of clothes drenched by a stinging shower,
teas at a wayside inn with some good friends, hot baths and fires,
the warmth for tired limbs and all the loveliness of home and rest.

Whilst I think of all those joyous days,
of all those heights I've gained and hours I've loved,
I will not envy those who take their turn in tramping manfully,
in storm or fine, the hills I know, for they are a part of me,
a heritage of beauty naught can spoil.

*The family wish to thank those that were able to
join us today and for the many messages of love and support
that they have received at this time*

**In lieu of flowers,
Ann has asked for donations to be made to her two chosen charities**

Four Paws

(Global animal welfare)

We care

(Transforming lives of street dogs worldwide)

Donations, should you wish, will be accepted via
www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/annhiley



With thanks to

*All the medical staff who have provided support to Ann in recent times including
Castlegate Surgery, The Palliative & District Nursing Teams
& The West Cumbria Hospice at Home Charity*

Thanks also to

*Celebrant Will Tillotson &
Ivan Mulla of Sandelands Funeral Directors*



18th December 2020
Distington Hall Crematorium
Distington CA14 4OY