

Patrick John Scally

South Bristol Crematorium

Friday 25th June 2021

12:00 hrs

Interment of Ashes



Bristol Celebrant Services

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Association of Independent Celebrants

1:

As we stand here today amongst those who have gone before us, we especially remember family members resting here. Today Patrick John Scally will join & rest amongst them. He will be joining Leslie & Patricia Wood, Bridget Axtell, and not forgetting Vivian who rests elsewhere. But their spirits are by our sides in each & every way.

It is very poignant that we are standing here today on what is been Pat's 88th birthday. A birthday is meant to be a joyous occasion, a time to rejoice, & a time to celebrate. Yet today we find it difficult to feel anything but sadness. But we should however rejoice. We should rejoice that Pat lived & loved, at the memories he created with each and every one of us. We each have our own special memories, our own stories to tell, a history to be relived and retold.

As we look around us here today, we are reminded of life in its fragile state, we arrive but for a brief moment in time. A lifetime. For some that will be long for others short, we know not when our time is near. Nor is it ours to know. Only time & fate can be our guide. To live a life fulfilled is the goal for each of us. This is what Pat did, he lived his life to the full, with dignity and honour.

We come here today to lay these tokens of Pat to rest. But These tokens are not the essence of Pat, for his essence will travel with us wherever we shall go in each and every step we take, Pat will be with us. In our memories and in our hearts.

You see, these memories can never be taken away from us, if we close our eyes even for a second, we remember those special moments. We can feel him with our presence, hear his voice whispering in the wind that breezes through the trees, or that familiar tune, these are our memories of Patrick John Scally.

2:

What is the sum of a man, is it the money he made, the mansion that he built or the things he accumulated during his life? No, a person can be assessed by their deeds and the contents of their heart.....In Pats case, he built a family, a home, and the deeds of being an honourable man.

This is the sum of Patrick John Scally, a good and honourable man, a friend to many, an enemy to none.....This can be shown in his actions and his deeds throughout his life. A life his family can be proud of.

Place the Tokens in the Grave

As we now place these tokens into the earth, for it is the earth that we come, as a seed is planted and grows, so man grows in life, and so it is to the earth that we must by nature return. For this is the way of nature, and the way of grace.

'The Final Inspection'

The Royal Marine stood and faced His Lord
Which must always come to pass
He hoped his shoes were shining
Just as brightly as his brass.

"Step forward now, you Royal Marine,
How shall I deal with you?
Have you always turned the other cheek?
To My Church have you been true?"

3:

The Royal Marine squared his shoulders and
said, "No, Lord, I guess I ain't
Because those of us who carry guns
Can't always be a saint.

I've had to work most Sundays
And at times my talk was tough,
And sometimes I've been violent,
Because the world is awfully rough.

But I never took a penny
That wasn't mine to keep...
Though I worked a lot of overtime
When the bills got a bit too steep,

And I never passed a cry for help,
Though at times I shook with fear,
As sometimes, please forgive me Lord,
I forgot that you were near.

I know I don't deserve a place
Among the people here,
They never wanted me around
Except to calm their fears.

If you've a place for me here, Lord,
It needn't be so grand,
I never expected or had too much,
But if you don't, I'll understand."

There was a silence all around the throne
Where the saints had often trod
As the Royal Marine waited quietly,
For the judgment of his God,

4:

"Step forward now, you Royal Marine,
You've borne your burdens true,
Walk peacefully on Heaven's streets,
There is space for you within heaven's gate!"

(Author - unknown)

I want to mention something that is personal to me, about my dad, and Uncle John. It is no secret that at one time uncle John wore a toupee, my dad would take great delight in sneaking up behind him, rubbing the middle of his head saying "Alright John" hoping that the toupee would become miss aligned. Uncle John's hands would immediately go to his hair to make sure it was straight; I am not sure what glue he used but it always stayed in place. My dad thought this was hilarious, and in turn as a child so did I. On getting home I remember mum giving dad a hard time about his prank, and dad saying, "he doesn't mind it's only a bit of fun". I am sure that Uncle John got his own back some way. Thank you, Uncle John, from your nieces and nephews you are and always will be a legend.

Nothing will take away the pain that family & friends feel here today, with the physical loss of Pat from our lives. We can however be proud of the man that he became and the honour that we have by having him being in our lives.

We now leave this place better people for knowing Patrick John Scally. & Whilst we leave the tokens that will mark his place in this world for all time, we leave them in the care of those mentioned before, but these are only tokens, the real Patrick John Scally will travel in space & time with each and every one of us. Until it is our time to go home and then we hope that he and those gone before will be there to greet us and welcome us back into the family fold.

5:

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