

EPIGRAPH 1941 – 2023



THIS TRACTOR BOY, WAS AN IPSWICH MAN
HIS NAME WAS DAVID, FROM THE STOLLERY CLAN
DEVOTED TO FAMILY, IN YORKSHIRE DID DWELL
BUT NOW HE'LL BE ASH ON THE RIVER ORWELL

(14)



DAVID STOLLERY
1941 – 2023

**LOVE LEAVES A MEMORY NO-ONE CAN STEAL
DEATH LEAVES A HEARTACHE NO-ONE CAN HEAL**

ORDER OF SERVICE

Entry song Theme from TV Series “Enterprise” “WHERE MY
HEART WILL TAKE ME” sung by “Russel Watson”

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A READING

"For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter.

THERE IS:-

**A TIME FOR PEACE, AND A TIME TO BE VIOLENT
A TIME TO SPEAK, AND A TIME TO BE SILENT
A TIME TO LOSE, AND A TIME TO CHANCE
A TIME TO MOURN, AND A TIME TO DANCE
A TIME TO LAUGH, AND A TIME TO CRY
A TIME TO LIVE, AND A TIME TO DIE
A TIME TO HATE, AND A TIME TO LOVE
A TIME ON EARTH, AND A TIME ABOVE**

And the following words from pieces written by Jack London and Henry Scott Holland:

Jack London

**The function of a human being is to live,
not to exist.**

Henry Scott Holland

**Death is nothing at all for I have only slipped
away into the next room, I am I, and you are you,
whatever we were to each other, that we are still.**

THE DAY I LEFT THE CORPS



Lieutenant Colonel P.A.C. Howgill presenting me with a farewell gift on my retirement as a Warrant Officer from the Royal Marines in February 1981.

THE DAVID AND ANN STOLLERY CLAN



EMILY, ANDREW, JENNY AND ALICE



ANN, SUZY, DAVID, FRANCESCA AND PHILLIP



1978 WO2 David Stollery RM, at Commando Training Centre RM, Lympstone, Devon (He served there from 1977 – 1981). This photo was taken just after he had received a commendation for his Fire Fighting duties in Glasgow during 1977/1978



WO2 David Stollery RM as the Dame in the CTCRM Sergeants Mess pantomime Humpty Jack, at the Barnfield Theatre, Exeter, Devon in 1980 and as Zartan in the following years pantomime 'Oliver Twit'.

David believed that people's lives are split into a sum of adventures like chapters of a book. This is David's story:

The 1st adventure for him was of birth in Ipswich, Suffolk during World War II in 1941 learning to be a human being and then childhood, school years (leaving school at 15), youth and teenager. Although growing up very poor, he knew no different so it was a happy childhood, mostly playing and exploring down the lairs, by and in, the river Orwell, collecting wood for the home fires, scrumping apples and vegetables, camping, swimming, learning to smoke and getting a job at 11 years of age, working as a paper boy and on a vegetable round. Buying his own clothes and a bicycle (on tick), then at 15 years of age working for a living in the retail trade.

A FIRST PERIOD OF 17 YEARS

The 2nd adventure of military life, proud years, from a 17 year old Royal Marine to a 40 year old Warrant Officer, learning to enjoy sports like Badminton, Squash, Table Tennis, swimming, snooker and learning to drink Vodka and be generous in defeat! Whilst in the Corps, serving in Kent, Devon, Hampshire, London, Scotland, Norway, Malta (twice), North Africa, Singapore, Aden, having served in 41 Commando, 43 Commando, 45 Commando and Headquarters 3 Commando Brigade. Not forgetting his first marriage to Greta Crosse in Plymouth, then his first years of married life to Ann (after getting married in Caxton Hall in London) and then the birth of two sons Phillip (born in Malta) and Andrew (born in Devon) and owning their first house in West Yorkshire.

A SECOND PERIOD OF 23 YEARS

The 3rd adventure of civilian life from 40 to age 65, with Ann and his two sons, working for his mate Chris Hurst in an engineering factory, then in Local Government, Ann and David as Landlady and Landlord of the Royal Oak Pub ("The Pubbing Lark" as his oldest son Phillip put it), unforgettably leaving the family almost destitute and divorced when they finally departed the Pub scene. Employed in Local Government, the Chamber of Commerce, the Textile Industry and finally working in the Post Room of the Halifax Bank. He enjoyed playing Pool, Snooker, Darts and Dominoes, once again being able to lose gracefully!!!!!!!!!



Sergeant David Stollery with his dog Skippy in the grounds of Alexander Palace (Ally Pally) whilst serving in MOD London
1970 – 1975

A THIRD PERIOD OF 25 YEARS

The 4th adventure of retirement from age 65, reunions, writing, travelling at home and abroad, DIY, hand crafting, brewing, reading and painting. Thoroughly enjoyable years with his lifelong partner Ann, a growing family Phillip, Suzi, Andrew, Jenny with beautiful granddaughters, Francesca, Emily, Alice and of course meeting new people and making some very wonderful friends around the world.

A TOTAL OF YEARS LIVED = 82 YEARS (however old I am)

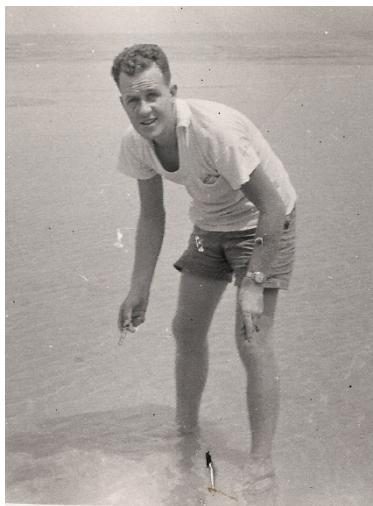
Perhaps the last adventure is life after death, who knows what happens, nobody has ever come back to tell us, perhaps I will! Nevertheless, everyone who has lived leaves a trace behind, be it family, memories, pictures, the written word or the sound of their voice and some of the best memories of all are tinged with love, laughter and sometimes tears.

GRAND TOTAL – FOREVER



Colour Sergeant David Stollery and Ann Stollery receiving Wedding Presents from Colonel Mansell at MOD London In 1974.

NOW LET US SING THE ROYAL MARINES HYMN



Royal Marine David Stollery on holiday in Malaysia, 1961



Corporal David Stollery RM, Aden, 1966 – 1967

ETERNAL FATHER, STRONG TO SAVE
WHOSE ARM HATH BOUND THE RESTLESS WAVE,
WHO BIDD'ST THE MIGHTLY OCEAN DEEP
ITS OWN APPOINTED LIMITS KEEP;
O HEAR US WHEN WE CRY TO THEE
FOR THOSE IN PERIL ON LAND AND SEA

HOLY SPIRIT, GRANT WE PRAY
TO ROYAL MARINES, BOTH NIGHT AND DAY,
THE COURAGE, HONOUR, STRENGTH AND SKILL,
THEIR LAND TO SERVE, THY LAW FULFIL:
BE THOU OUR SHIELD FOR EVERMORE,
FROM EVERY PERIL TO OUR CORPS.

O TRINITY OF LOVE AND POWER
OUR BRETHREN SHIELD IN DANGER'S HOUR;
FROM ROCK AND TEMPEST, FIRE AND FOE
PROTECT THEM WHERESOEVER THEY GO.
THUS EVERMORE SHALL RISE TO THEE
GLAD HYMNS OF PRAISE FROM LAND AND SEA.

**AND NOW IF TECHNOLOGY ALLOWS, A EULOGY SPOKEN
BY DAVID STOLLERY A PROUD AND LOVING HUSBAND,
FATHER, GRANDFATHER AND FRIEND**

Hello everybody this is David Stollery, welcome to my funeral. It may seem strange to you, the deceased giving his own eulogy (in the form of an Ode), but after all I am the guest of honour and if I wasn't somebody, there would be no body – Boom! Boom! And also you have come to watch me go out in a blaze of glory!

Be cheerful please, there's too many dead people in this place already. You are allowed to Clap or boo if you must.

There will be some mention of going around the world! And Will! And Intense! Because over the years this has been a running joke between Ann and myself.

I tried to think who I would get to narrate this, because obviously I would miss hearing it (and I think it is quite good – perhaps I can get Gabriel to blow my own trumpet), so in the end I decided to do it myself before I departed this mortal coil.

Here goes then my very last ode, AN ODE TO MY FAMILY by former Human Being and Royal Marine David Stollery:

David's Picture Gallery

THE STOLLERY CLAN



Mary, David and John Stollery. I must have been four or five here



David, Mary, Mum (Winifred), Alan, Tony and John. This photo was taken outside our home at 95 Fletcher Road, Ipswich, Suffolk. My photo was taken in the back garden and the other photo, which I took, was taken in the front garden of the house,

probably sometime in the Nineteen Sixties.

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A FINAL ODE TO MY FAMILY

MY EYES ARE CLOSED AND SLEEPING, MY WILLING HANDS ARE STILL
THE ONE WHO WORKED SO HARD FOR YOU, IS RESTING AT GOD'S WILL
THE TOTAL LOVE I GAVE YOU, I HOPE WILL STAY IN MIND
THE BEAUTIFUL MEMORIES YOU GAVE ME, I CANNOT LEAVE BEHIND

I TOLD YOU NOT TO SHED A TEAR, AND ALSO NOT TO CRY
BUT THEN I WROTE THIS ODE TO YOU, OH WHY? OH WHY? OH WHY
I SUPPOSE I LEFT A BIT TOO EARLY, MY LIFE FORCE NOT QUITE SPENT
THAT'S WHY I HID MY WALLET, I STILL OWE TWO WEEKS RENT

IF ALL THIS SEEMS INTENSE TO YOU? THIS SURELY IS NOT RIGHT
WHY AM I IN THIS WOODEN BOX, I SHOULD BE ON A CAMPSITE?
I HOPE I BROUGHT YOU LAUGHTER AND YOU ARE LAUGHING STILL
COS I NEVER FOUND THE ANSWER ON WHY THEY FIRE AT WILL?

I COULD HAVE GONE AROUND THE WORLD, THE SOUND OF MUSIC
SAID SO
BUT NOW I'VE FOUND A BETTER PLACE, THAT PLACE WE ALL MUST
GO
I HOPE I'VE MADE A SLIGHT IMPACT AND MY LIFE WAS NOT IN VAIN
AND SOMETIME IN THE FUTURE A KIND PERSON WILL MENTION MY
NAME

I WAS PROUD TO BE A ROYAL MARINE AND SERVED ON MANY A COAST
BUT NOW I HAVE TO MARCH AWAY, AS THE BUGLER SOUNDS LAST POST
I HOPE THERE ARE SOME BOOTNECKS HERE, THEIR THIRST I'M SURE
UNBOUND
THEY'VE HEARD THAT STOLLERY'S GONE NOW AND HE'S COUGHED UP
FOR A ROUND

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I'VE HAD A REALLY GOOD LIFE AND DONE SO MANY THINGS
I FOUND A LIFE LONG PARTNER, AFTER EXCHANGING WEDDING
RINGS
I'VE SEEN MY TWO SONS PROSPER, OF BOTH I'M VERY PROUD
WITH LOVELY WIVES BESIDE THEM, THEY STAND OUT IN A CROWD

PLEASE TRY NOT TO BE TO SAD MY WIFE, THE WIFE THAT I ADORE
FOR A KISS AND HUG AWAITS YOU, ON SOME FAR AND DISTANT
SHORE
MY HEART IS ALWAYS WITH YOU ANN, MY PRIDE IN YOU SHINES
BRIGHT
AND NOW YOU NEED NOT SUFFER, MY COLD KNEES IN THE NIGHT

MY LOVE INCLUDES MY FAMILY, MY SONS, MY GRANDCHILDREN AND
MATES
BUT NOW THE TIME HAS COME FOR ME TO CLIMB UP TO THOSE GATES
THE FAMILY CHAIN IS BROKEN AND NOTHING MAY SEEM THE SAME
BUT WHEN GOD CALLS US ONE BY ONE, THOSE LINKS WILL JOIN AGAIN

NO LAST ORDERS PLEASE – AND MINES A DOUBLE

TAKE CARE, GOD BLESS AND LOVE TO YOU ALL

Exit music and song:

“LAST POST”

And

“ALWAYS LOOK ON THE BRIGHT SIDE OF LIFE” sung by Eric Idle

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