

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

DR RICHARD PINNOCK SPIERS

4TH OCTOBER 1947 – 16TH MAY 2023



1948. With Mum and Dad.



1949. Christmas.



1955. Aged seven.



September 1962. With Fenella for their annual awkward sibling photograph.



1966. Aged 18.



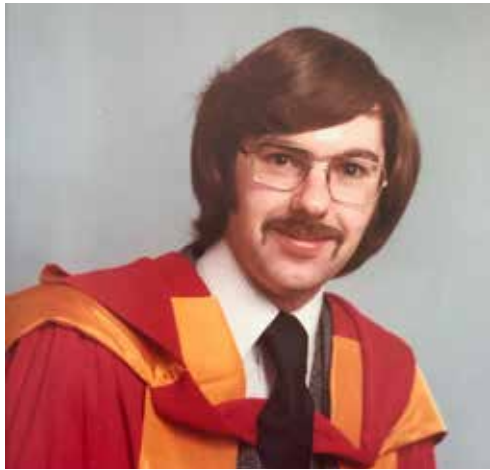
1974. Bradford with Maryam and monkeys.



21st October 1975.



21st October 1975.



1977. PhD graduation.



December 1985. Becoming a dad! With Fenella, Maryam and his mum Enid.



1990. Seaworld, Los Angeles.



1991. At home.



1995. At home – making faces!



2009. At home. The Sunday Times.

## FUNERAL DETAILS

*Thursday 25th May 2023, 11.30am*

SERVICE: Stonemason Funeral Home, Doran Court,  
Reigate Road, Redhill, Surrey, RH1 6AZ

BURIAL: Redstone Cemetery, Philanthropic Road, Redhill, RH1 4DG

## ORDER OF SERVICE

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### ENTRANCE MUSIC

Dreams - Fleetwood Mac

### WORDS OF WELCOME

*Dr Shabnam Spiers*

### EULOGY

*Written & read by Dr Shabnam Spiers*

### PRAYER

*Read by Dr Katrin Alden*

He is God, exalted is He, the Lord of loving-kindness and bounty!

Glory be unto Thee, Thou, O my God, the Lord Omnipotent. I testify to Thine omnipotence and Thy might, Thy sovereignty and Thy loving-kindness, Thy grace and Thy power, the oneness of Thy Being and the unity of Thine Essence, Thy sanctity and exaltation above the world of being and all that is therein.

O my God! Thou seest me detached from all save Thee, holding fast unto Thee and turning unto the ocean of Thy bounty, to the heaven of Thy favour, to the Daystar of Thy grace.

Lord! I bear witness that in Thy servant Thou hast reposed Thy Trust, and that is the Spirit wherewith Thou hast given life to the world.

I ask of Thee by the splendour of the Orb of Thy Revelation, mercifully to accept from him that which he hath achieved in Thy days. Grant then that he may be invested with the glory of Thy good-pleasure and adorned with Thine acceptance.

O my Lord! I myself and all created things bear witness unto Thy might, and I pray Thee not to turn away from Thyself this spirit that hath ascended unto Thee, unto Thy

## ORDER OF SERVICE

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heavenly place, Thine exalted Paradise and Thy retreats of nearness, O Thou Who art the Lord of all men!

Grant, then, O my God, that Thy servant may consort with Thy chosen ones, Thy saints and Thy Messengers in heavenly places that the pen cannot tell nor the tongue recount.

O my Lord, the poor one hath verily hastened unto the Kingdom of Thy wealth, the stranger unto his home within Thy precincts, he that is sore athirst to the heavenly river of Thy bounty. Deprive him not, O Lord, from his share of the banquet of Thy grace and from the favour of Thy bounty. Thou art in truth the Almighty, the Gracious, the All-Bountiful.

O my God, Thy Trust hath been returned unto Thee. It behooveth Thy grace and Thy bounty that have compassed Thy dominions on earth and in heaven, to vouchsafe unto Thy newly welcomed one Thy gifts and Thy bestowals, and the fruits of the tree of Thy grace! Powerful art Thou to do as Thou willest, there is none other God but Thee, the Gracious, the Most Bountiful, the Compassionate, the Bestower, the Pardoner, the Precious, the All-Knowing.

I testify, O my Lord, that Thou hast enjoined upon men to honour their guest, and he that hath ascended unto Thee hath verily reached Thee and attained Thy Presence. Deal with him then according to Thy grace and bounty! By Thy glory, I know of a certainty that Thou wilt not withhold Thyself from that which Thou hast commanded Thy servants, nor wilt Thou deprive him that hath clung to the cord of Thy bounty and hath ascended to the Dayspring of Thy wealth.

There is none other God but Thee, the One, the Single, the Powerful, the Omniscient, the Bountiful.

*Bahá'u'lláh*

## ORDER OF SERVICE

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### READING

*Read by Dr Katrin Alden*

O SON OF MAN! Thou art My dominion and My dominion perisheth not; wherefore fearest thou thy perishing? Thou art My light and My light shall never be extinguished; why dost thou dread extinction? Thou art My glory and My glory fadeth not; thou art My robe and My robe shall never be outworn. Abide then in thy love for Me, that thou mayest find Me in the realm of glory.

*Bahá'u'lláh*

### POEM

The Soldier - Rupert Brook

*Read by Jim Noad*

If I should die, think only this of me:

That there's some corner of a foreign field

That is for ever England. There shall be

In that rich earth a richer dust concealed;

A dust whom England bore, shaped, made aware,

Gave, once, her flowers to love, her ways to roam,

A body of England's, breathing English air,

Washed by the rivers, blest by suns of home.

And think, this heart, all evil shed away,

A pulse in the eternal mind, no less

Gives somewhere back the thoughts by England given;

Her sights and sounds; dreams happy as her day;

And laughter, learnt of friends; and gentleness,

In hearts at peace, under an English heaven.

## ORDER OF SERVICE

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### READING

*Read by Fenella Spiers*

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

*Psalms 23: Verses 1-6.*

### MY BROTHER RICHARD

*A Tribute by Fenella*

### MUSIC FOR REFLECTION

Turn! Turn! Turn! - The Byrds

### READING

*Read by Dr Taryn Cruickshank*

When the human soul soareth out of this transient heap of dust and riseth into the world of God, then veils will fall away, and verities will come to light, and all things unknown before will be made clear, and hidden truths be understood.

Consider how a being, in the world of the womb, was deaf of ear and blind of eye, and mute of tongue; how he was bereft of any perceptions at all. But once, out of that world of darkness, he passed into this world of light, then his eye saw, his ear heard, his tongue spoke. In the same way, once he hath hastened away from this mortal place into the Kingdom of God, then he will be born in the spirit; then the eye of his perception will open, the ear of his soul will hearken, and all the truths of which he was ignorant before will be made plain and clear.

*'Abdu'l-Bahá*

## ORDER OF SERVICE

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### POEM

Do Not Weep for Me – Unknown

*Read by Silas Carson*

Do not weep for me, for I have loved and been  
loved by my family and by those who loved me  
for I never knew a stranger, only friends.

Do not weep for me, for I have lived...  
I have joined my hand with my fellows' hands,  
to leave the planet better than I found it.

Do not weep for me for I have not gone.  
I am the wind that shakes the mighty Oak.  
I am the gentle rain that falls upon your face.  
I am the spring flower that pushes through the dark earth.  
I am the chuckling laughter of the mountain stream.

Do not weep for me for I have not gone.  
I am the memory that dwells in the heart of those who knew me.  
I am the shadow that dances on the edge of your vision.  
I am just around the corner.

Do not weep for me for I have not gone.  
I will be there on your special day.  
I will be there for the new births on the farm or in the hospital.  
I will be there when you reach out to touch another's heart when you choose kindness.  
I will be there when you believe things are not going your way,

Do not weep for me. I am not gone.  
But rejoice at the transformation of my being for I now touch Gods face  
and have been reunited with those who have passed before me.

## ORDER OF SERVICE

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### READING

*Read by Ian Alden*

To consider that after the death of the body the spirit perishes is like imagining that a bird in a cage will be destroyed if the cage is broken, though the bird has nothing to fear from the destruction of the cage. Our body is like the cage, and the spirit is like the bird. We see that without the cage this bird flies in the world of sleep; therefore, if the cage becomes broken, the bird will continue and exist. Its feelings will be even more powerful, its perceptions greater, and its happiness increased.

*'Abdu'l-Bahá*

### PRAYER

*Read by Ian Alden*

O my God! O Thou forgiver of sins, bestower of gifts, dispeller of afflictions! Verily, I beseech thee to forgive the sins of such as have abandoned the physical garment and have ascended to the spiritual world. O my Lord! Purify them from trespasses, dispel their sorrows, and change their darkness into light. Cause them to enter the garden of happiness, cleanse them with the most pure water, and grant them to behold Thy splendours on the loftiest mount.

*'Abdu'l-Bahá*

### CLOSING MUSIC

Always Look on the Bright Side of Life! - Monty Python

*We will now make our way to Redstone Cemetery, where we will lay Richard to rest.*



June 2011. Father's Day.



May 2015. Amsterdam Tulip Festival.

## FROM RICHARD'S FAMILY

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Thank you for being here with us today, and for your support and kindness over the last few weeks.

Following the service, you're warmly invited to join us at home to enjoy some of Richard's favourite food, and to share your memories of him.

*Farm Corner  
15 The Avenue  
Tadworth  
KT20 5AY*

If you would like to make a donation in Richard's memory, please consider donating to Parkinson's UK, as they provided him with such wonderful support in the last years of his life.

*[www.funeralguide.co.uk/obituaries/112007](http://www.funeralguide.co.uk/obituaries/112007)*





August 2015. At home. The proud gardener.



May 2016. At home.  
Building his train set.



June 2016. Father's Day.



April 2019. Cruising the Norwegian Fjords.



August 2021. Brighton.



October 2022. Happy 75th Birthday!



December 2022. Shabnam's final graduation.



