

**A Celebration Of The Life Of  
Chris Wearden**

*“Where Music Speaks Louder Than Words”*



6<sup>th</sup> February 1960 ~ 28<sup>th</sup> February 2022

Tuesday, 5th April 2022  
2:30 PM

Taunton Minster

From Peter...

Thank you for coming today to celebrate the fully-lived life of Chris Wearden- albeit shorter than expected.

Today is about saying goodbye to him and being very sad for a while, but then carrying life on in the manner Chris would applaud and appreciate. Let's face it- he was large and not just in character and he deserves a large send-off.

This service is all about the music that he loved which made him feel alive and in-tune with his emotions. I encourage you to not feel confined by this impressive and imposing church or religious etiquette, instead enjoy its beauty and reflect.

Chris deserves a ceremony that befits his beliefs and reflects the passion he had for life. So, if anyone thinks this service is over the top or self-indulgent then I've achieved my ambition as it has been designed specifically to be deeply personal and centered on someone we all loved.

Chris was fortunate to enjoy the love of his family, the love of loyal friends and the love we shared in our final years together. Prior to meeting Chris in 2016, he and I had each spent 55 years searching for someone to love, someone who would not betray us either emotionally or physically (unusual in gay-life), thankfully we found each. I am so glad we enjoyed a few years together and I'm sure there are many of you here who knew we LIVED our lives, shared many precious moments and above all had great fun.

We knew our time together was limited, in fact Chris was terrified I would 'depart' after my tenth heart operation that's planned for later this year, so during our trip to Spain in February to celebrate his 62nd birthday we chatted about death most days. I will cherish such honest, open conversations forever.

Have a good cry if you wish, interact with other friends of Chris' but above all show compassion and love, as that is how Chris lived his 62 years.

Thank you for being here today.

After the service Chris' family and close friends will attend a short committal service at the crematorium to make sure he has gone. We will return to be with you to celebrate his life, laugh, cry, call him a \*\*\*\* for leaving us. Please follow the trumpeter up the road for a few minutes to the Castle Hotel where corks will be popping!

Peter

## Order Of Service



With thanks to the Reverend Toby Osmond  
and Director of Music, John Bodiley

### **Music As We Enter**

*Canon In D*

Johann Pachelbel

### **Sentences Of Scripture**

### **Introduction And Prayers**

#### **Music**

*La Traviata - Act 1, Prelude*

Giuseppe Verdi

#### **Tribute To Chris**

By Heather Tween

### **Psalm 23**

#### **Music**

*Requiem For An Angel - Let Mine Eyes See Thee - Paul Carr*

*'You Search for 55 years and find your solemate -  
sadly we did not have enough time together'*

Let mine eyes see thee, sweet Jesus of Nazareth

Let mine eyes see thee, and then see death

Let them see that care, roses and jessamine:

seeing they face so fair, all blossoms, all, all

Flower of Seraphim, sweet Jesus of Nazareth

Let mine eyes see thee, and then see death

Nothing, nothing I require where my Jesus is

Nothing, nothing I require where my Jesus is

Anguish all desire - All my help is His

He only, he only , he only succoureth

Let mine eyes see thee, sweet Jesus of Nazareth.

Let mine eyes see thee and then, then, then see death.

### **Scripture Reading**

*John 14: 1-6*

### **Music**

*Requiem For An Angel - Do I Love You More Than A Day? - Paul Carr*

Do I love you more than a day?

Days used to be faint hours to endure.

Now through our love

I feel each hour on this spinned world about the sun.

Embodied time, I live creation through you.

And I love you more than day and I love you more than a day

Do I love you more than the air?

Air used to seem just nothingness.

Through our love, now it seems no less than Gods air airing your life's  
breath.

Too rich for space, Too dear for death.

Through you.

And I love you more than the air.

And I love you more than the air.





You are invited to place a flower around Chris' coffin



**Music**

*Requiem Aeternam*

John Rutter

**A Time For Personal Reflection**

**Music**

*Tosca - Act 3, E Lucevan Le Stelle*

Performed By Jonas Kaufmann

Giacomo Puccini

*'Peter treated Chris to his first visit to the Royal Opera House and Chris enjoyed it so much he listened to it in bed to fall asleep to. Think rich deep red velvet, gilding, beauty and decadence.'*

**Hymn**

And did those feet in ancient time  
Walk upon England's mountains green  
And was the holy Lamb of God,  
On England's pleasant pastures seen!  
And did the Countenance Divine,  
Shine forth upon our clouded hills?  
And was Jerusalem builded here,  
Among those dark Satanic Mills?

Bring me my Bow of burning gold;  
Bring me my Arrows of desire:  
Bring me my Spear, O clouds unfold!  
Bring me my Chariot of fire!  
I will not cease from Mental Fight,  
Nor shall my Sword sleep in my hand,  
Till we have built Jerusalem,  
In England's green and pleasant Land.



### **Music**

*Can't Help Lovin' That Man Of Mine* - Performed By Rachel Crane  
George Gerswhin

*'A great friend of ours from the last village we lived in and possibly the best estate agent on the planet. A lovely lady. Chris organised Rachel to record this song for me and send it to me on my 60th birthday during lock-down. It went down better than the present he bought me of a steam press iron, so I could do his bed linen faster - REALLY?'*

### **Tribute**

By Peter Higgins

### **Prayers**

You are invited to light a candle in Chris' memory

### **Music**

*Requiem For An Angel - Agnus Dei - Paul Carr*  
Agnis dei qui tolls peccata mundi, dona eis requiem  
The world feels dusty when we stop to die.

*'Please show some love to others, feel free to move around the church, hug, kiss or just shake hands.'*

### **The Lord's Prayer**

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come; thy will be done;  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.

### **Commendation**

### **Blessing**

### **Music As We Leave**

*Toccata In F Major*  
Charles- Marie Widor

The Minster bells will ring out across Taunton





## The Chris Wearden Alphabet

A	ABERFELDY
B	BALVENIE AND THE BARCARDI/MARTINI GROUP
C	CHIVAS REGAL
D	DUNHILL INTERNATIONAL/DIAGEO
E	EMERALD ISLE COCKTAIL
F	FIZZ
G	GLENMORANGIE
H	HENDRICKS
I	INDIAN TONIC WATER
J	JAMESONS
K	KALUAH
L	LEMON TWIST
M	MAKE MINE A LARGE ONE DARLING
N	NEGRONI
O	ORANGE TWIST
P	PERNOD
Q	QAUGMIRE
R	REMI MARTIN
S	SANDBANKS
T	TEQUILA
U	ULTIMATE SPEYSIDE
V	VODKA MARTINI
W	WILLIAM GRANT & SONS
X	XO HENNESSEY
Y	YUCATAN SOUR
Z	ZOMBIE



The family would like to take this opportunity to thank you for attending the service and for all the heartfelt words of support and messages of condolence at this difficult time.

You are invited to join the family after the service at The Castle Hotel, Castle Green, Taunton, TA1 1NF for a celebration of Chris' life  
- follow the trumpeter Luis, who will guide you along the street for the short walk.

Should you wish to donate in memory of Chris to the family's chosen charity, Trees For Taunton, you may do so as you leave the service, or by sending directly to the Funeral Directors.



CRESCENT FUNERAL SERVICES  
SIMON HELLAR-MOORE

The Old Coach House, Crescent Park, Taunton, TA1 4ED