

A service to celebrate the life of

Stephen Charles Kirk



9th June 1954 - 11th October 2020

St Mary's Church

Plumtree

Nottinghamshire

Monday 26th October 2020 at 10.00 am

SERVICE CONDUCTED BY REVEREND TREVOR KIRKMAN

MUSIC ON ENTRY

Jerusalem
Katherine Jenkins

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 chariots 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.

OPENING SENTENCES

Reverend Trevor Kirkman

BIBLE READING

Ecclesiastes, Chapter 3: verses 1-4
by Reverend Trevor Kirkman

EULOGY

Early Years
Reverend Trevor Kirkman

TRIBUTE
My Best Friend
Sam Bowery

Steve, or Kirky to most, was my best friend. He was more than a friend - he was a confidant and had his own unique way of giving me advice. He was a partner in crime. He was also godfather to my daughter, Jada and the best man at my wedding.

I met Steve and his brother, Phil in the 70s when they visited a wine bar called Uriah Heep, where I worked. Years later, I worked for the Kirk brothers in a bar they owned called Lyrics and some years after that The Club/Venus.

Over the 40 plus years I've known him, we've both got married a few times and had children, and throughout those years, our families have continued to entwine. My wife, Suzanne was one of Nicola's best friends and misses her dearly, as we all do. Sebastian is and will always be Kiki's god-brother and will always watch over her in years to come, believe me. Gabriella and Theodora will always be like daughters to me and I will always be there for them.

I do have many stories that I could share but this is a particular one: I went skiing in Verbier, Switzerland one year with Steve, Phil and a few others. It was my first ever time and I wasn't particularly good at it. I broke my thumb whilst having skiing lessons and had to wear a plaster from my wrist to supporting my thumb. So a few days later, I went on the slopes again but wiped out and panicked, thinking I was going to slide all the way down the hill and die. So, being the only person of colour on the slopes, Kirky decided to tell onlookers I was a royal African prince who had never seen snow before, hence I wasn't good at skiing and hated the cold temperature. I never skied down the slopes from that day and took up bar skiing instead, which was much more enjoyable.

I will say Kirky was the most laid-back guy I've ever known - he was never in a rush. His speed was slow or sometimes reverse; in fact, the fastest I saw him go was in his wheelchair. But I'll always remember his famous line, 'Never fear, Kirky's here.'
Well, the sad thing is he's not here anymore, but I will never forget him and his cheeky humour.

God bless you, Kirky, see you on the other side.

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION

My Baby Just Cares For Me - Nina Simone

TRIBUTE

Me Ode Mate, Kirky

Herbie Hare

I can't believe I am reading this today to me ode mate, Kirky.

We met years ago in the clubbing days, first The Club, Venus, then Delux and Wax Bar.

You got me painting all of them and even that turned into a party! We'd have music on and a few drinks, working through the night, but still got the job done, because you stayed there to make sure we did! Any window of opportunity, it turned into a party (too many stories to tell) – most of them I'll keep up here.

You already lived in

Ruddington when I moved there. That's when we got closer and started going out a lot, much to the dismay of Marline and Nicola. It would either be Marline having a go at me 'cause you were still here when she got up, or Nicola having a go at you 'cause I was still at yours when she got up! In your words, we used to say, "Int it about time we grew up?" (You used to say that to me all the time.) If I dyed my hair a different colour, you'd give me that Kirky look and say, "Int it about time you grew up?" (I'll miss that.)

We had some lovely family parties, some round our house, but mainly at yours. I can remember the old BBQ you had; it looked like it was falling to pieces and I would say to you, "Get a new gas one." You gave me that Kirky look and said, "GAS, don't talk so ridiculous." But to be fair, you did the best BBQs and a cracking Sunday dinner as well!

We used to go out on a Thursday night with all the Ruddington lads and if you walked in with your blazer on with badges on it, they'd say, "Well, you're not coming home tonight then!" Jackets and badges meant town! We were quite famous for walking out the pub at last orders and looking at each other and saying, "Left or right?" Right meant home, left meant town...it was always left!

We were so happy and privileged to have had you in our lives. You are leaving behind three lovely daughters. Sleep tight, me ode and go and see Nicola, who is waiting for you.

Love you, me ode, and God bless.

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION

Everybody's Free - Sound Behaviour



EULOGY

Later Years

Reverend Trevor Kirkman

TRIBUTE

A Poem For Dad

Theo Kirk

From the day we were born, you've been our dad.

We gather today to share memories we had.

Fatherhood started in the 90s, when you danced the night away,

But for us, we remember our Tuesday teas and takeaway.

Those family evenings were always so great;

Fish pie, paella, you carefully crafted what we ate.

Crowded roast dinners were your signature, when you'd announce, "It's all veg."

You designed our fried breakfast, so the beans never touched the eggs!

It's not just your cooking that we cherish so dearly,

But adventures and 'scenic routes' that made up our holidays yearly.

It's your lingo and phrases that had us laughing to each other:

'Black over Bill's mothers', 'blithering idiot', 'you do look like ya mother'.

I inherited your eyes, Gabi got your personality,

But your sharp wit's in all three of us, a valued quality.

Okay, we'll admit it, your dad jokes we will miss...

Nearly as much as a 'sloppy' goodbye kiss.

But how can you not live on in our hearts?

After all, in our lives, you played the biggest of parts.

So proud of all three of us, we all know that's true,

And now, up in heaven, there's Kirky's dancing to do.

So we three will stand through our lives together

And you can rest now, in our hearts forever.

PRAYERS *and* THE LORD'S PRAYER

Reverend Trevor Kirkman

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 AND BLESSING

Reverend Trevor Kirkman

MUSIC ON EXIT
I Can See Clearly Now
Johnny Nash

I can see clearly now the rain is gone,
I can see all obstacles in my way.
Gone are the dark clouds that had me blind.
It's gonna be a bright (bright),
Bright (bright), sunshiny day.
It's gonna be a bright (bright),
Bright (bright), sunshiny day.

I think I can make it now the pain is gone;
All of the bad feelings have disappeared.
Here is that rainbow I've been praying for.
It's gonna be a bright (bright),
Bright (bright), sunshiny day.

Look all around, there's nothing but blue skies.
Look straight ahead, there's nothing but blue skies.

I can see clearly now the rain is gone,
I can see all obstacles in my way.
Gone are the dark clouds that had me blind.
It's gonna be a bright (bright),
Bright (bright), sunshiny day.
It's gonna be a bright (bright),
Bright (bright), sunshiny day.
It's gonna be a bright (bright),
Bright (bright), sunshiny day.
Oh, what a bright (bright),
Bright (bright), sunshiny day.

The committal will follow in the Churchyard.



Stephen pictured with his three daughters, Gabriella, Theodora, and Kiki-Rose along with his beloved canine Grandchildren, Miso and Winnie, celebrating his 66th Birthday, 9th June 2020.

The family would like to thank everyone for their kind words and support at this sad time.

Memorial donations in memory of Stephen Kirk can be made for the
Sheffield Hospitals Charity (Osbourne Spinal Injury Ward)

or

Breast Cancer Now.

These may be sealed in the donation envelope in your Order of Service and placed in the temporary box on leaving the service,

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