

WELCOME

Thank you for joining us today, in the great outdoors. Whilst our surroundings may feel rather exposed at present, come Springtime, this whole area will be planted with new trees as part of a project to regenerate new young woodlands.

There will be no stone placed, so we wanted to leave Gloria with a bed of wildflowers to see her through until the trees take over. Included with your Order of Service are seeds, which you can scatter now, later, or in your own garden so they will spring up as a reminder in a few months.

The family will be returning here tomorrow morning to scatter wild seeds once Gloria's grave has been filled in. You can also leave your seeds with us to scatter tomorrow on your behalf.



ORDER OF SERVICE

Conducted by Jane Anderson of Humanist UK

We will be keeping the service short and sweet. As well as reflecting on the life of Gloria, we will also be including two readings and a personal tribute from the family.

THE FIRST READING

Our first reading, selected by Gloria's son William, is the poem *The Ent and the Ent-wife*, from Tolkien's masterpiece *The Lord of the Rings*.

Ents were sentient beings who closely resembled trees. This is a debate between a married couple on the the changing seasons and the passing of time.

THE ENT AND THE ENT-WIFE by J.R. Tolkien

Ent:

When spring unfolds the beechen-leaf and sap is in the bough,
When light is on the wild-wood stream, and wind is on the brow,
When stride is long, and breath is deep, and keen the mountain air,
Come back to me! Come back to me, and say my land is fair!

Entwife:

When Spring is come to garth and field, and corn is in the blade,
When blossom like a shining snow is on the orchard laid,
When sun and shower upon the earth with fragrance fill the air,
I'll linger here, and will not come, because my land is fair!

Ent:

When Summer lies upon the world, and in a noon of gold
Beneath the roof of sleeping leaves the dreams of trees unfold,
When woodland halls are green and cool, and wind is in the West,
Come back to me! Come back to me, and say my land is best!

Entwife:

When Summer warms the hanging fruit and burns the berry brown;
When straw is gold, and ear is white, and harvest comes to town;
When honey spills, and apple swells, though wind be in the West,
I'll linger here beneath the Sun, because my land is best!

Ent:

When Winter comes, the winter wild that hill and wood shall slay;
When trees shall fall and starless night devour the sunless day;
When wind is in the deadly East, then in the bitter rain
I'll look for thee, and call to thee; I'll come to thee again!

Entwife:

When Winter comes, and singing ends; when darkness falls at last;
When broken is the barren bough, and light and labour past;
I'll look for thee, and wait for thee, until we meet again:
Together we will take the road beneath the bitter rain!

Both:

Together we will take the road that leads into the West,
And far away will find a land where both our hearts may rest.

THE SECOND READING

Our second reading is a tribute to Gloria by her daughter Katy, on behalf of all Gloria's children.

THE THIRD READING

Our third reading is Sonnet 60, on the themes of life, love and death.
Chosen for Gloria's love of Shakespeare.

SONNET 60 by William Shakespeare

Like as the waves make towards the pebb'l'd shore,
So do our minutes hasten to their end;
Each changing place with that which goes before,
In sequent toil all forwards do contend.
Nativity, once in the main of light,
Crawls to maturity, wherewith being crown'd,
Crooked eclipses 'gainst his glory fight,
And Time that gave doth now his gift confound.
Time doth transfix the flourish set on youth
And delves the parallels in beauty's brow,
Feeds on the rarities of nature's truth,
And nothing stands but for his scythe to mow:
And yet to times in hope my verse shall stand,
Praising thy worth, despite his cruel hand.