

W BRO ROBERT DAYSMITH

“Brethren. It is my honour to deliver this eulogy for Harry Anthony Robert Daysmith known by many as Bob, although I always knew him as Robert.

On a personal level I first met Robert back in 1998 when I joined the Queen's Body Guard and then I saw his face beaming at me during my Initiation when I joined Comrades Lodge. Surprise Surprise! One of the first things that struck you was his calm and unassuming manner. Robert was able to put people at ease by just listening to them which is a very rare quality indeed it was this very quality which for myself and, I'm sure others will agree, was always there when needed. His advice was always straight and true.

On the 31st August myself and other members of Mulberry, some travelling great distances, attended Robert's funeral, as did many other people and organisations you could tell that Robert was very much loved, respected and cared for. That day was a true testament to the man he was. The fact that a State Trumpeter turned up in all his regalia says it all.

After the funeral some went back to Robert's house to meet his family and friends and to see his Garden of Eden, the place that gave him so much happiness and relaxation. I remember whenever we would meet, normally here in MMH, the Red Lion or the Princess Louise or anywhere they served beer he would always talk about what he was doing around the house and garden something he took much pride and enjoyment in.

A famous writer once said, we make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give, if that's true then Brother Robert made a great life, he was the most giving and patient person I've ever known.

Robert's journey really started for him when he joined one of the oldest regiments in the Army, courtesy of the Coldstream Guards - The Life Guards. Robert had a distinguished career, with his sense of pride and panache excelled in any task or mission which was thrown at him. Robert retired from the regiment as a WO2 having served 22yrs.

After leaving the Military he used that same sense of pride and panache that he had gained from the regiment when he joined Harrods as the head doorman, again a role that a man with Robert's personality and skill set, excelled in and enjoyed very much.

Robert joined the Comrades Lodge in 1996 and was a founder member of Mulberry and never looked back, his hard work and dedication was Nulli Secundus - Second to None, he loved nothing better than helping new and old members in everything masonic. He was Worshipful Master in both Lodges and even learnt Emulation workings and the words when Master of this Lodge. I am not aware of any office that Robert did not fulfil at some stage in his masonic career. Not only was he in Craft but Chapter and Rose Quire as well. Robert also served 19 yrs in The Queen's Body Guard which qualified him to join our Lodge.

We talk in our Masonic readings about the great pillars that stand in our temples, well Robert was a pillar for this lodge and will leave a void very very hard to fill.

But what is our loss will almost certainly be the Grand Lodge in the Sky's gain and I'm sure Robert will be keeping things in check and making sure their drill is conducted in the manner that would only be accepted by him.

Robert was a special friend, mentor and comrade but above all he was our brother, and will be deeply missed. Our thoughts go out to Eileen his sister and Chris his long-time friend.

Please be upstanding brethren for a minute of silent reflection”.

W Bro Capt Keith Robinson RVM *SLGR*