

A celebration of life David Gumbrell

28 March 1944 – 11 February 2018

12.30 pm, 23 February 2018, Margam Crematorium

a personal goodbye

Humanist
Ceremonies

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Dave was a unique character, sometimes grumpy and he had his idiosyncrasies, but he had a heart of gold and a passion for whatever he pursued in life. I loved him dearly as did my late mum, and I know Linda loved him to bits.

He was an interesting man with a love of cooking and a passion for music. He was a keen cricket fan; his eternal optimism was demonstrated in his unwavering support for the England cricket team! I can even remember him at my cousins wedding with an earpiece in, listening to the Ashes.

Dave was born in 1944 to Edna and Albert in Weymouth, his Dad sadly passed away at an early age. Dave served an apprenticeship in Portland as a stonemason. He was clearly a talented craftsman but music was his first love.

In 1965/66 spent Dave time playing in a band, the Crescendoes with whom they had a number one hit in Germany. It was during this time he met Gloria and they had their son Simon.

Dave once confided in me that he didn't really remember much of the 60s, his staple diet being beer and marijuana.

The Crescendoes more recently reunited for one final gig in Weymouth, in Dave's words "it was magic".

On returning home from Germany, Dave made his way to Cardiff, working once again as a stonemason, and lodging with Steve, Dorren and their daughters Ann, Sue and Sally, people I know who were like family to him.

Dave worked for a number of years at the Welsh Folk Museum, towards the end of his time there he met my mum, Anne, and they married in 1989.

I think Dave got a bit more than he bargained for with three grown step kids and two dogs!

During this time they both shared an interest in golf, both Dave and my mum threw themselves into the Vale of Glamorgan Golf and country club.

This is written by Noel Werner from the Vale Of Glamorgan golf club.

As many of you are aware, Dave was diagnosed approximately one year ago. During this time this terrible disease racked his body, but not his unbreakable spirit until the very last day.

Dave's positive outlook on life, even during the most difficult of times, was inspirational – sometimes even contagious. He was a truly unique and irreplaceable human being.

Dave has always been very passionate about his work at the Vale Resort and involved with the club since its inception as a member, committee member, Captain and club secretary. Dave was made an honorary member for his contributions to the club in 2017.

Dave will be profoundly missed by everyone whose lives he touched. We will no doubt always remember Dave, our close friend, colleague and mentor with heartfelt fondness and a smile on our faces.

My mum sadly passed away in 2002, but Dave continued to be an important part of my family.

The measure of Dave is how he had enduring friendships. He met Clive in 1978, and they have known each other for over 40 years. They shared a passion for fishing, Dave somehow becoming Wales Sea Angling team manager! Many a night I've laughed until I've cried with the jokes and banter these two have shared over a pint or three in The Coach House.

Dave and Linda have been together for 13 years, having met on an internet-dating website. They both were very happy, with a strong mutual interest in

music and travel. Linda has told me of some of the great times they had together.

During this time with Linda, Mock Thee Knott formed and Dave was doing what he loved once more – back on stage, performing his beloved music. I went to see the band play on a couple of occasions. Dave's passion was clear to see.

Linda and Dave have had a tough 12 months since he was diagnosed with cancer. Linda has been a steadfast, loving partner, always there for Dave up until the last difficult moments.

Dave has dealt with it with his usual upbeat spirit, and until relatively recently continued to do what he enjoyed. I admire his spirit and lust for life until the end.

Simon will miss being his Dad's roadie and the nights out with the band but most of all Simon will greatly miss his Dad.

Dave was very much loved by lots of people and we shall all miss him dearly.

Rest in peace Dave, plenty of time to play your guitar now mate!