

Peter Haughey

27th December 1935 – 6th November 2012

YOU KNOCKED ON MY DOOR

Long years ago
you knocked on my door
as a stranger.
You said your name was Peter.
You said you believed in Jesus.
You said you felt that He had brought you
to my door.
You stayed.
We prayed.
We laughed.
We wept.
You gently opened the door of my heart
and at once
we became brothers
in Christ.
In our pilgrim journeys
God had caused our paths to cross.
Because of this crossing,
I and countless others
had the privilege of seeing
and sharing in
your walk of obedience and compassion.
As you drew close
to so many who were
wounded, hurting and even broken,
in gentleness you were
an instrument of healing,
and in the family of the Community,
of which you became a treasured part,
we saw an abundance of love
flowing through and from you.
You shared pain,
because you knew pain.
You shared hope,
because you were hope-filled.
You loved the unity
so needed in a broken world.
You loved the gentle healing of Christ.
You received His healing,
you became part of His healing presence,
raising the fallen, befriending the lonely,
comforting the sad,

binding up the wounds of the
bruised and injured.
And in all this
you had a passion
for the building of God's Kingdom.
Resolutely, tirelessly,
you gave of yourself
in the work of drawing
Christian brothers and sisters together,
encouraging and strengthening them,
Helping them to grow.
In all this you were utterly reliable,
utterly dependable,
utterly zealous.
In your travels across the land
you brought light,
and newness of life.
Your arms stretched out
to bless the stranger,
to enfold the weak.
Your arms were raised to give glory
to the Lord.
Your constant prayer
'Come, Lord Jesus' – Maranatha!
has been heard.
And now the Lord has come
to call you home.
Your brothers and sisters
are filled with thanksgiving
and gratitude.
We will miss the twinkle in your eye,
your ready wit and your servant heart.

Peter, you have knocked on many doors,
and many lives have been opened
to God's love through you.
Now He has opened His door to you
to welcome and embrace.

Allelujah!

(By Dennis Wrigley)

Wakefield Maranatha

In Fondest Memory of our Leader and Loving Brother in Christ Peter Haughey

By Robert Wilson



As Gods chosen ones holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness and patience. Bear with one another, and if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you must forgive. Above all clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful.”Colossians 3 v 12—15”

Our thoughts, love and condolences we send to Peters family, Esther, Jamie, his grandchildren and all his relations as they mourn over their great loss. He had a great compassion and love in his heart for all of them. It is hard to believe that Peter is no longer with us. Peter was a gracious, humble, good, kind, and inspiring man who could always be depended upon to put warmth into the welcome at meetings through his sense of humour. There never was a dull moment when Peter was around. He also was a Spirit filled Christian who built his faith upon the rock of Gods Holy Word, devoted to the Kingdom of God, and a man of prayer. While his death has shocked and saddened us all, his memory will live on in Maranatha and in all the organisations he was involved with. The words that were written in his heart were Come Lord Jesus and Unity, Healing and Renewal. Peter above everything else showed great compassion towards everyone.

He was a completely dedicated follower of our Lord Jesus Christ, a true and faithful servant; his heart was always full of thanksgiving and praise, that The Holy Name of God may always be glorified above everything else. His life was led by the Holy Spirit and Jesus was always put at the centre. A born leader Peter was totally committed to giving help, support, and encouragement to other leaders he was in contact with. He took his responsibilities very seriously and had a great eye for detail. He took his responsibility as the Maranatha regional leader in Yorkshire very seriously and showed great love and concern towards all the other group leaders. When setting up for a meeting or Retreat his standards were always high, in order that the room would be pleasing in the Lords sight, with the table being set in the centre of the chairs with a candle, cross and bible placed upon a clean cover. He found great satisfaction in being able to produce the posters for many of the events. Peter would work many times during the night preparing for events, printing his posters, and sending emails. He did not sleep much at night but would never waste any time, using it to serve the Lord. Peter

had the gift of tears and many times he cried (just like Jesus did for Lazarus) for the sick, those in pain, and other people's sin, that they may come to know the healing touch of Jesus.

Peter knew that his calling was to minister to the poor, the sick, the infirm, the elderly, and most especially, those who were suffering from any form of mental illness. His time was completely dedicated to those he befriended - to George, Bryan, Paul, Dougie and many others (24/7) - nothing was ever too much trouble for Peter. It was a joy to be with him, he made people feel loved, safe and valued. He showed great appreciation for all the help, training, advice, and Christian leadership skills which he learned from his mentors Dennis Wrigley and the late Rev David Shrisunder. Peter expressed many times the special compassion he had for both Dennis and David, for the examples they showed in being true disciples of our Lord Jesus Christ. The love and compassion that he showed was contagious and spilled over into his every day life. Many testimonies can be told from the Grange Fellowship For Youth movement in which he played a major role. He held the Reverend Tony Walton and all his Methodist Church family in very high esteem, and was very excited about the new circuit just formed. He looked forward to the freshness that came through the different preachers each weekend and the awareness that the Holy Spirit was ever present.

It was while being a befriender that Peter met the Reverend Hazel Walker and thereafter joined the Bethany Healing Centre that Hazel was setting up. Peter set about his tasks just the same as he did in Maranatha. Serving on the management team he could always be relied upon to carry out his duties faithfully. He would say his role was to put out the chairs, but as those at Bethany know this is a very low estimate of all he would do. He showed great love for his neighbours and the community where he lived. Special people in his life were Bill and Violet Cowen, Christine Saville, Tony and Pat Clayton, Hazel Walker, Michelle, and all the people he worked with in mental health.

Peter had a great yearning in his heart to see the values that Maranatha stands for grow and spread into more areas in Yorkshire. To that end he became a great networker with the other Churches in his area and also those in other towns and cities. Much good seed has been planted by Peter, seed from which God can make grow and produce a rich harvest. Peter was very special and unique, he will be a very hard act to follow. Thank you Peter for all you have given us. Thank you for being my carer, encourager, brother, mentor and friend. There will be always a special love in our hearts for you, and you never will be forgotten. Today on his funeral Peter is saying to us all **“Glorify the Lord with me; let us exalt His name together” Psalm 34.3**

**And Jesus prayed;”Father I pray that they all may be one just as you and I are one”.
Amen.**

This has been written for all the people who have met, shared ministry with, worked with or heard about Peter. He loved you all.



Peter Haughey “Be Happy for me”

By Mike Doherty

Peter was admitted to Wakefield Hospital on the evening of Monday 25th October with respiratory problems due to repeated pneumonia. Shortly after admittance he suffered two cardiac arrests. He did not recover consciousness and passed away on Tuesday 6th November. His daughter (Esther), his son (Jamie) and his niece (Rachael) were with him throughout most of this period and he died in their arms surrounded by their love for him.

Although many of us know of his bouts of pneumonia, his parting still came as a great shock. He had been such a blessing to those who had attended the Bawtry retreat a few days earlier and, not long before that, at the Yorkshire Regional Maranatha Meeting.

Matthew and I were grateful for the opportunity to attend the Sheffield Maranatha Group Meeting at St Mark's on Saturday 10th November. After prayer and a fellowship meeting, we gave thanks for his life through songs of praise and adoration, through personal recollection and through Scripture.

Peter had not enjoyed good health over the last year, had been very tired in recent months and now he had been called to the Lord:-

**“My beloved spoke, and said to me
Rise up my love, My fair one
And come away.
For lo, the winter is past”**

(Song of Songs 2.10.11a)

No doubt, he was greeted with the words “well done, my good and faithful servant”

Pat Hallam summed up so much when she described her first meeting with Peter. She arrived at Harpurhey a little apprehensive, not knowing anybody, but Peter made her so welcome. He could reach out to complete strangers and make them feel important. This was very much reflected in his befriending ministry. In his car, he went far and wide reaching out to people, sharing the love of Jesus. How could we not think of Peter when we sang “I shall work for Jesus until the shadows fall”?

When he walked into meetings at Sheffield he had such a presence. He knew each person by name and cared for each one. He brought the best out of people.

Just as he did at Wakefield Maranatha, he would bring a carload expending much time and energy. We all recalled his smile and the fact, in ministering to us, he seemed to have all the time in the world. He exuded Shalom.

Peter could well be described as “effervescent;” and he leaves us with so many memories it is impossible to describe them all. Matthew will never forget Peter on a number of occasions saying that he was born in “nineteen hundred and typing error”!

As Dennis has said elsewhere he was a wonderful Ambassador for the Community. Everything he did was prepared and carried out immaculately. Nothing seemed too much; for instance, Pat recalls him at the last Regional Meeting precariously perched on a chair as he sought to affix a poster to the wall! How appropriate it was to sing “Brother Sister let me serve you”.

He was a great encourager, especially for those in trouble and alone. In his mentoring role, he demonstrated pure love, expecting nothing in return. He saw Christ in everybody and, again, we could imagine Peter singing to us “Cast your eyes upon Jesus Look at His wonderful face”

We also heard about the Wakefield Maranatha meeting which had been held at the time that Peter’s life support machine has been switched off (Friday 2nd November). As they sang the songs Peter would have sung, they were led into the Lord’s presence in a most precious way. As Peter would have wanted, they gazed upon the beauty of His holiness and were reminded that where there is terrible pain there can be joy of the Lord; Peter himself had suffered much pain in his life. We sang the last song Peter had sung to us at St Marks – “Burdens are lifted in Calvary; Jesus is very near”

He had shone as a “light” (or “star”) in the world (Philippians 2.15)

We prayed for Jamie and Esther and for the Wakefield Maranatha Group many of whom will themselves be in deep pain as a result of their loss. Also not least in view of a lack of transportation, the Lord's help is needed to continue the Group in its present form.

We ask that you continue to pray for Jamie, Esther and the Wakefield Group

A service of Thanksgiving and Celebration for the Life of Peter was held at Horbury Methodist Church (which he had attended for 22 years) on Tuesday 13th November.

His family had found a book headed “My wishes for my funeral” And his main wish? In capital letters



“BE HAPPY FOR ME”

In his Bible was a pink sticker marking **Psalm 145 verse 18**

**“The Lord is near to all who call upon Him
To all who call upon Him in truth”**

Under the verse, he had written

“I love you Lord”

As the Reverend Tony Walton made clear during the Service, these words sum up his faith, his life, his ministry. He was always available for the Lord.

This was indeed a celebration of his life. It was a testimony to his faith which he wanted each of us to take seriously. He has gone to glory. For us who are left behind, the light of his flame will remain in our hearts. Be happy for him!

