

HUTCLIFFE WOOD CREMATORIUM
SHEFFIELD



A CELEBRATION
FOR THE LIFE
OF
CARMEN GELMINA BLAKELEY
1930 - 2025

FUNERAL SERVICE
15th OCTOBER 2025



ORDER OF SERVICE

MUSIC

HE WAS DESPISED

KATHLEEN FERRIER

WELCOME

ANDREW PLATTS

CARMEN'S STORY

DOMINIC HARRIS

TRIBUTES FROM FRIENDS

POEM

CARMEN

READ BY SANDRA WOOD

One day in living memory
Not so long ago
Michael led us right up Kinder
From Edale down below.

At lunch we sat on boulders
No pub soup there of course
So Carmen ate her tinned sardines
In oil their only sauce.

Late in the day in Edale
The Nag's Head pub was found
Some foaming pints were ordered
Just as the starting round.

When they'd been wed near 40 years
She dreamed a cruising foray
Aboard a ship called Ruby
Right to the shores of Norway.

Dutiful spouse called Michael
Booked a ship of the line
But on Rose not Ruby
And on year 39!

To make amends the following year
The Ruby cruise was made
To the Antarctic far away
And thus Michael's gravy saved.

A LETTER OF GRATITUDE

WRITTEN BY VERONICA, CARMEN'S GOD-DAUGHTER

READ BY PETAL, CARMEN'S GOD-DAUGHTER

HYMN FOR REFLECTION

The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want;
He makes me down to lie
In pastures green; He leadeth me
The quiet waters by.

My soul He doth restore again,
And me to walk doth make
Within the paths of righteousness,
E'en for his own name's sake.

Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,
Yet will I fear none ill;
For Thou art with me, and Thy rod
And staff me comfort still.

My table Thou hast furnishèd
In presence of my foes;
My head Thou dost with oil anoint,
And my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life
Shall surely follow me,
And in God's house for evermore
My dwelling-place shall be.

POEM

THE DASH

READ BY JACKIE, CARMEN'S GRANDDAUGHTER

I read of a man who stood to speak
At the funeral of a friend.
He referred to the dates on the tombstone
From the beginning...to the end.

He noted that first came the date of birth
And spoke the following date with tears,
But he said what mattered most of all
Was the dash between those years.

For that dash represents all the time
That they spent alive on earth.
And now only those who loved them
Know what that little line is worth.

For it matters not, how much we own,
The cars...the house...the cash.
What matters is how we live and love
And how we spend our dash.

So, think about this long and hard.
Are there things you'd like to change?
For you never know how much time is left
That can still be rearranged.

If we could just slow down enough
To consider what's true and real
And always try to understand
The way other people feel.

And be less quick to anger
And show appreciation more
And love the people in our lives
Like we've never loved before.

If we treat each other with respect
And more often wear a smile,
Remembering that this special dash
Might only last a little while.

So, when your eulogy is being read,
With your life's actions to rehash...
Would you be proud of the things they say
About how you spent YOUR dash?

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

FAREWELL

CLOSING WORDS

MUSIC

BRIDGE OVER TROUBLED WATER

SIMON AND GARFUNKEL

*You will be most welcome at
The Cross Scythes,
Baslow Road,
Totley, S17 4AE
after this service, for refreshments.*

*If wished, donations in memory
of Carmen made payable to
“Work Ltd.”
may be sent to Adam Heath,
John Heath & Sons,
14, Earsham Street,
Sheffield, S4 7LS
placed in the box provided
or made online at www.JohnHeath.co.uk*





