

William 'Stuart' Adamson



1958 - 2001

Stuart Adamson Memorial
Carnegie Hall, Dunfermline
Jan 27th 2002

Piper David Dobson plays lament
"Flowers of The Forest"

Richard Jobson

Rev Alex Mitchell reading his introduction and prayers
"The Lords my Shepherd"

Jim Leishman
David Allan

Skids Video Footage

"Into The Valley"

Performed by Richard Jobson & Bruce Watson

Barry Wright of Regular Music

Big Country Video Footage

Ian Grant, Tony Butler
Tony Greco

'Angel'

Performed by Kirsten Adamson & Josh Phillips

Big Country Video Footage

Callum Adamson

'Fragile Thing'

Performed by Kirsten & Callum Adamson, Bruce Watson, Tony Butler and Mark Brzezicki

Rev. Alex Mitchell reading
The Serenity Prayer and into 'Abide With Me'

"Chance"

Performed by Bruce, Mark, Tony and Guests

INTRODUCTION

BY THE REV. ALEX MITCHELL

In this Memorial Service we are not here to seek answers to the many questions we may have but we are here to remember and give thanks for the life of Stuart Adamson. We celebrate a life that touched many people, a life that brought much happiness to others. Stuart was not perfect for none of us are, but in a world where so many get carried away with themselves he stayed close to his roots and to the people who meant most to him. From his upbringing and the words of his songs we know that Stuart had a spiritual dimension to his life. He had a life long quest for knowledge and understanding. He was a loyal and faithful friend to many. Like many of us Stuart had his struggles, his disappointments, his new beginnings and his dashed hopes. Tonight as we hear more about Stuart and his contribution to other people's lives, his contribution to music and entertainment and sport, let us give thanks to God for his life

Ecclesiastes 3 v 1 – 8 & 15

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven. A time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot, a time to kill and a time heal, a time to tear down and a time to build, a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance, a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them, a time to embrace and a time to refrain, a time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw away, a time to tear and a time to mend and a time to be silent and a time to speak, a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace. Whatever is has already been, and what will be has been before; and God will call the past to account.

God our Father we turn to you in this time of loss,
For whom else can we turn to at a time like this?
You are our help in every time of trouble.
In the presence of death you comfort those who mourn.
We come before you,
Believing you bear our grief and share our sense of loss.
Give us grace to trust you, to trust in your goodness and mercy.
Assure us that because Christ lives, we may live also.
Loving God in our pain we remember with sorrow
The time when we have failed one another,
When we have said and done things which we later regretted.
Or when we left unsaid and undone those things which we wish we had.
In your kindness forgive our past sins,
Set us free from any sense of guilt,
And make us strong to live our lives in love.
Help us tonight to be thankful for Stuart's life
And for all that he meant to each person gathered here.
Through Jesus Christ we ask these things Amen

THE LORD'S MY SHEPHERD

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,
Ev'n for his own name's sake.

Yea, thou 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 has furnished
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.

INTO THE VALLEY

Into the Valley
Betrothed and divine
Realisations no virtue
But who can define
Why soldiers go marching
Those masses a line
This disease is catching
From victory to stone

*Ahoy! Ahoy! Land, sea and sky
Ahoy! Ahoy! Boy, man and soldier
Ahoy! Ahoy! Deceived and then punctured
Ahoy! Ahoy! Long may they die*

Out of concealment
Blank and stark eyed
Why so uncertain
This culture deceives
Prophesised, brainwashed
Tomorrow's demise
All systems failing
The placards unroll

*Ahoy! Ahoy! Land, sea and sky
Ahoy! Ahoy! Boy, man and soldier
Ahoy! Ahoy! Deceived and then punctured
Ahoy! Ahoy! Long may they die*

Time for the audit
The gathering trial
A collectors dilemma
Repositioned and filed

ANGEL

Spend all your time waiting
For that second chance
For a break that would make it okay
There's always one reason
To feel not good enough
And it's hard at the end of the day
I need some distraction
Oh beautiful release
Memory seeps from my veins
Let me be empty
And weightless and maybe
I'll find some peace tonight

In the arms of an angel
Fly away from here
From this dark cold hotel room
And the endlessness that you fear
You are pulled from the wreckage
Of your silent reverie
You're in the arms of the angel
May you find some comfort there

So tired of this straight line
And everywhere you turn
There's vultures and thieves at your back
And the storm keeps on twisting
You keep on building the lie
That you make up for all you lack
It don't make no difference
Escaping one last time
It's easier to believe in this sweet madness oh
This glorious sadness that brings me to my knees

In the arms of an angel
Fly away from here
From this dark cold hotel room
And the endlessness that you fear
You are pulled from the wreckage
Of your silent reverie
You're in the arms of the angel
May you find some comfort there

FRAGILE THING

Thank you mam for asking, Yes I'm on my own,
I guess it's kind of obvious, I'm eating here alone,
I'm grateful for the company, Tired of talking to myself,
Don't you look into my eyes, For you might see someone else.

I've been to see a movie, About a man who saved the world,
Had the same old happy ending, Where the hero gets the girl,
And all I ever wanted was to be that hero too,
Then I might still be with her instead of here with you

Thank you for your time now, I'm gonna go and walk,
Might as well do that, Because I'm running out of talk,
I could walk a thousand miles tonight, And never find my place,
At least until it gets too light, To hide my tearful face,

Love is a small and fragile thing,
I spend a lot of cold nights missing you,
Keep it in your hands
Or Let it take wing,
I spend a lot of cold nights missing you,

There's a low ballet on the highway,
Brief faces in the light,
I catch them for a second,
Heading somewhere in the night,
We have no connection,
But the darkness and the road.
I better find a place tonight,
Better call it home.

THE SERENITY PRAYER

God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change,
Courage to change the things I can, and wisdom to know the difference.

Living one day at a time; enjoying one moment at a time;

Accepting hardship as the pathway to peace.

Taking, as He did, this sinful world as it is, not as I would have it.

Trusting that He will make all things right if I surrender to His Will;

That I may be reasonably happy in this life and supremely happy

With Him forever in the next.

AMEN



ABIDE WITH ME

Abide with me; fast falls the eventide;
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide;
When other helpers fail, and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
Earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;
Change and decay in all around I see;
O Thou, Who changest not, abide with me.

I need Thy Presence every passing hour;
What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's power?
Who like Thyself my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, Lord, abide with me.

I fear no foe with Thee at hand to bless;
Ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness;
Where is death's sting? Where, Grave, thy victory?
I triumph still, if Thou abide with me.

Hold Thou Thy Cross before my closing eyes;
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;
Heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
If life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

CHANCE

All the rain came down, On a cold new town,
As he carried you away, From your father's hand,
That always seemed like a fist,
Reaching out to make you pay.

He came like a hero from the factory floor,
With the sun and moon as gifts,
But the only sun you ever saw,
Were the two he left you with,

*Oh Lord where did the feeling go,
Oh Lord I never felt so low*

Now the skirts hang so heavy around your head
That you never knew you were young,
Because you played chance with a lifetime's romance,
And the price was far too long.

*Oh Lord where did the feeling go,
Oh Lord I never felt so low*

TRIBUTES

You may be out of sight but you will never be out of mind. We will love you forever.

Mum, Dad, Kim, Alistair, Erin, Leila & Cameron

I am humble in your midst, keeping you warm and the memories from harm.

Love Sandra

We served each other well, no-one needed to tell us that. We knew we did. Our relationship was much more than that of manager/artist. I am glad we spoke recently, what turned out to be our final words. I know how hard you were trying. You're forever in my heart.

Stuart, RIP

Ian

With you, we were Big Country, without you we are not, but we will always be brothers.

Shine on.

Tony

Rest in peace Stuart

Bruce

Stuart was an extremely talented musician with a huge amount of passion in all that he did.

He was also a shy man that valued his privacy and this gave him his unique charm and personality that made him one of the great gifted singer/songwriter/musician's that I have had the honour to work with.

Mark

*Compassion, inspiration and humility were proudly worn as a badge of honour
in both your music & life*

Richard Jobson

I was lucky to have had a great friend in Stuart, he always listened and advised on any problems without ever displaying or airing any personal difficulties. He was a loving, caring man who is held dear in my heart and by his many friends in his beloved Dunfermline. Stuart may be gone, but his talent, his music and his treasured memory survives.

"Look away you dreamer send your spirit to me"

You're one in a million.

Bobby Drummond

Stuart Adamson was a hero and an inspiration, who along with Bruce, Tony & Mark, produced some of the most enjoyable, passionate, original and uplifting music that it has ever been my privilege to listen to, both on record and live, Stuart - you were one in a million.

May you have found your peace.

Willie Tocher on behalf of the Big Country Fan Club

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

For all who have given so much to the organisation of Stuart's Memorial and for Ian Grant & family.

Much love and appreciation

*Sandra, Robin, Callum, Kirsten, Stuart's Mum & Dad, Kim
and the rest of the Adamson family.*

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would not be happening in the manner it is (has?)*

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years. And to the fans, especially those who have travelled from far and wide today and over the years.*

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God bless, Callum, Kirsten, Sandra, Stuart Snr, Anne, Kim and all close family.

Ian Grant

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services to make this memorial happen.*

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Billy Sloane

Jim and Helen and the staff at the Carnegie Hall

James Pearson Security

Rock Steady Security

The Rev. Alex Mitchell

David Dobson for the Pipes