

## **Beautiful Lady, Loyal Servant**

*St Matthew's Church, Edgeley Community Poem in honour of HM The Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday*

She is a natural born leader; she is a kind, honest, caring Queen.

She is kind and caring; she is caring, compassionate, leads by example.

She seems to be open and honest; knows she is influential and uses this wisely.

She is the only one who could stop Margaret Thatcher having her own way.

She is a non-political figurehead for our country.

I love her unwavering commitment to serving. Her commitment to the country.

She is a focus of stability to the country. A joyful character.

She's very empowering. She's very beautiful and empowering.

She's very tolerant; stands a lot of nonsense. Works very hard.

Friendly to everyone. Somebody to look up to.

She has a good sense of occasion; great dignity; speaks very well.

I like the Queen's constancy and serenity.

I like that she's a Christian; she loves God. She likes dogs and horses.

I just like her! Her existing. Her jewellery and her horses.

Her smile. Dedication. A long-serving servant of this country.

I just love the Queen ☺

I like what the Royal Family stand for; they are all nice people.

They have existed for a long time, always being there.

And they're posh. The Queen always reminds me of my own Mum –  
and her similar family to mine. Amazing at 90 years old.

I remember my Granddad crying as he watched the Manchester Blitz in 1941.

I remember the Blitz and Herr Hitler bombing my house.

I remember the air raid shelters and my dead childhood friends.

I remember the Queen when she was in the ATS as a driver.

My husband went to Egypt during the War.

The Cuban Missile Crisis of 1962. JFK murdered.

Vietnam; Korea. World Cup '66. The first heart transplant.

Northern Ireland. Landing on the moon.

We were allowed to stay up 'specially to watch it on a black and white TV.

I was woken on my seventh birthday to watch Neil Armstrong land on the moon.

Concorde. Computers. The Falklands War. The famine in Ethiopia and Hillsborough.

Live Aid. The fall of the Berlin Wall. The end of Apartheid. Dunblane. Lockerbie.

Manchester bombed by the IRA. Mobile phones. The death of Princess Diana. 9/11.

The 2002 Manchester Commonwealth Games. The Hunting Act.

The 2012 London Olympics. Decorating buildings for royal visits.

My birthday is on the Queen's birthday. 58 years of Queen's birthdays.

Every time it's the Queen's birthday, it's mine, so it's extra-special.

The Queen is just nine years older than me.

This year, as the Queen celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup>, I celebrated my 50<sup>th</sup>.

Prince Charles ruined my first birthday – because he was born! Everyone talked about *him*.

My wedding. The birth days of my two boys. My dedication back to God!

Wedding-wife-daughter-son. My family get-togethers.

The births and development of my four grandchildren – all boys.

My Dad passing away.

I've been through life.

Edited by Linda Cosgriff

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1958: leaving the RAF and buying my first car for £10.

Not enough coal. Cold bedrooms.

Putting up the National Standard at Church Lads' & Girls' Brigade headquarters at Wath-Upon-Deare. Being invited by the Queen to a Royal Garden Party.

I know the Queen does not have dementia and Alzheimer's like me.

We stood near Somerset House in London as the Queen passed on her way from St Paul's to Buckingham Palace. I remember meeting the Queen when I was in the RAF.

I was nearly run over by the Queen in her limousine (she wasn't driving).

I remember seeing the Queen when she came through Stockport in the Seventies;

I waved a flag from the pavement by the A6 in Great Moor.

I played in the orchestra on the Town Hall balcony while the Queen was having lunch.

I wanted to marry Prince Charles. I was six; he was five. My Dad said he'd better start saving.

I met Princess Anne and Captain Mark Phillips on several occasions.

I met Princess Alexandra in Stockport; and saw the Queen at Stockport Town Hall.

Diana, Princess of Wales visited St Ann's Hospice.

HRH Duke of Kent visited my place of work, Galt Toys (*By Royal Appointment*).

I met Prince Harry at a paracycling event at the Velodrome. He sneaked in.

Princess Margaret scrounged a cigarette off me. And the use of a lighter.

When I was little I waved to the Queen.

I like her home, Buckingham Palace. I've been to Windsor Castle: it's lovely.

I saw the Duke of Edinburgh at my brother's passing out parade.

Weddings, jubilees, births and christenings: happy times.

I was born when King George V and Queen Mary were on the throne.

The Queen was married when I was six days old; the nurses in the hospital stole the jam that my Mum was given in lieu of flowers (because of rationing).

I watched the Coronation on my parents' very small black and white TV.

I sang *How Much Is That Doggy in the Window?* at the Coronation street party.

I danced during the Coronation, in the Devisdale in Bowdon.

I remember the Investiture of the Prince of Wales in 1969.

I remember the Queen's Silver Jubilee in 1977.

We had twelve months of weekly bingo games to raise funds for the neighbourhood street party. I won a bread board and didn't want to give it to my Mum.

Not sure what use it was for a thirteen year-old. I kept a scrap book of that year; it got lost when I moved. I think my Dad threw it away.

It was very cold for the Silver Jubilee fireworks.

Prince Charles' and Lady Diana's wedding. The Queen Mother's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday.

The Golden Jubilee, 2002. We had a street party in Edgeley, where I live.

The Queen's Diamond Jubilee in 2012. With my family, I celebrated the last two Jubilees in London – just like the Queen. Jubilee street parties! Kate and William's wedding.

The births of Prince George and Princess Charlotte. I like the corgis.

Remarkable at ninety: she seems normal. She's done very well!

The Queen stands for all that is great about Britain.