



Roger Anthony Storer

June 5, 1949 - April 3, 2014

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Roger Anthony Storer, loving husband, father and grandfather, inspirational speaker and writer, author of two books, Distinguished Toastmaster, “Baby Whisperer”, and friend to so many, made his transition from his earthly body on April 3, 2014.

Roger was born on June 5, 1949, in Nottingham, England, to Arthur and Ivy Storer. He graduated with an Honors degree in Electrical/Electronic Engineering from Lanchester College of Advanced Technology in Rugby, England. He was employed by General Electric and Texas Instruments in England before transferring to the United States in 1977. Roger held high level positions in marketing and customer and field support, first in Houston then Austin (1983), before leaving Texas Instruments in 1986 to pursue entrepreneurial ventures. In 1987, he co-founded Second Wave, Inc., an Apple Macintosh hardware peripherals manufacturing company, which he sold in 1999. He then created Lighthouse Estates, a subdivision in Jonestown, Texas, where he built a lighthouse home in honor of his father Arthur’s love of the sea.

Roger was a charter member of the Today Toastmasters Club, which will celebrate its 25th anniversary in August. He thrived in speech competitions, winning multiple humorous and inspirational speech contests at the district level. He became the District 55 “Sound Man” in the 1990s, providing professional quality sound as a volunteer at district conferences for over 20 years. He achieved the highest designation of Distinguished Toastmaster.

Roger shared his inspirational speaking talents at Unity Church of the Hills, where he spoke on service, gratitude, and turning the ordinary into the extraordinary. He loved children and was a regular volunteer in the baby room. He became known as “The Baby Whisperer” at the church because of his ability to calm any crying baby. His book, “Infants of Unity I.O.U” shares the lessons that children teach us.

Roger was diagnosed with advanced stage prostate cancer on his 62nd birthday in June 2011. He wrote his second book entitled “Thank You, Cancer” to describe his cancer journey and how to turn the fear of death into the death of fear. Until April 3, 2014, Roger focused on living and taught us all to do the same.

Roger is survived by his wife Lark Doley, his two sons Mark and David Storer, their mother Pat Wolfenbarger, their wives Adria and Kristin; and three granddaughters: Miralei, Calysta and Layne, all of Austin; and an uncle Jack Storer, cousins John Storer and Pat and Richard Mann and their families in England.

A celebration of Roger’s life will be held at Unity Church of the Hills, 9905 Anderson Mill Rd., Austin, Texas 78750, on Saturday, April 26. From 1-2:45 p.m. in the Unity Pavilion friends and families will share “Roger Stories”, followed by a memorial service from 3-4 p.m. in the Unity Sanctuary. The family requests donations of time or money to Unity Church of the Hills in lieu of flowers.

Comments



“ As a co-member of Today Toastmasters years ago, I remember being motivated by the ease at which Roger performed, and impressed by how a clearly successful man made made even the most novice of speakers feel welcome.
---Ernie Martinez

Ernie G. Martinez - July 21, 2015 at 07:31 AM



“ Al Stepney III lit a candle in memory of Roger Anthony Storer



Al Stepney III - July 10, 2015 at 10:14 PM

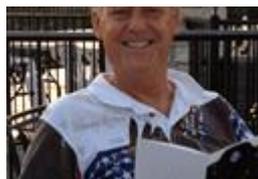


“ I didn't know Roger personally, but as a fellow toastmaster, he was part of the family and will be missed dearly.

Adrian Huddleston - April 30, 2014 at 10:02 AM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Sherry Nemeth - April 23, 2014 at 02:36 PM



“ We have a lot of fond memories of Roger. Whenever we visited Texas, Roger and Lark made us very welcome. The lovely memories of our stay in their house in Austin when Uncle Arthur was with us and also at the Lighthouse. Uncle Arthur would have been so proud of what Roger had achieved. The project of building the Lighthouse was such a huge gamble and he was so brave to take it on, but a success it was and Roger has left a wonderful landmark in Texas, which should last for many many years. Also, we have fond memories of Roger's life in England. He had achieved so much in his life. It was such a shame that his life was cut short, suffering the way he did. We send our deepest sympathy to Lark, Mark and David and their families. Roger will be sadly missed.

All our love from England:-

Pat and Richard

Ian and Julia

Sarah and Paul

Uncle Jack

Richard & Pat Mann - April 23, 2014 at 01:29 PM



“ Lark - I am so very sorry for your loss. I know you lost not only your husband, but your best friend. We can take comfort in that you will be together again.

John 16:22 So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you. (Jesus' words)

Love in Christ,
Cheryl Bratton



Cheryl Bratton - April 18, 2014 at 03:26 PM



“ Ola Joseph lit a candle in memory of Roger Anthony Storer



Ola Joseph - April 16, 2014 at 02:51 PM



“ May his gentle soul rest in peace. A very generous and open-handed man. I recall visiting his Light house after 2005 Regional Conference in Austin. We all had a good time there. He made us feel at home.

Lark, may God grant you the strength to bear the loss. We will all miss him.

Roger, Rest In Peace.

Ola

Ola Joseph - April 16, 2014 at 02:59 PM



“ How lucky we all were to have Roger among us. Roger went down in the Toastmasters book as a great speaker, leader and a fine example of service to community. He earned our highest regards, as he gave each and every person his unwavering honest respect and support. He enjoyed competing and put his heart into mastering the craft. Over the years, he reached out many times personally to help me succeed. As he stepped down from being that regular presence, he was missed immediately. He is missed for who he truly was – a person of service, with that room-lighting smile, and an ever-so-British and oh-so-chipper manner.

Roger, you helped to shape our journeys, and made the path a little easier. Roger, you made us stronger. Thank you.

Scotty Burch - April 15, 2014 at 04:52 PM



“ My most poignant memories of Roger are from his time working the sound system for Toastmasters District 55 conferences and contests. Having worked in the technical field myself, quality sound is something that when done well – just fades into the background and often is not noticed. Whether it was the music that captures that just-right tone and seems to come from all around, that speaker that is across the banquet hall from you but seems like they are right next to you, or that smooth and warm voice that introduces each new dignitary entering the room – Roger was a master at helping others succeed. For the contestants, Roger gave his all to make certain that there was always going to be a level playing field, and had someone supporting them as the last person they interacted with before going on-stage. Roger’s beaming smile was so warm and reassuring, confident but gentle – a light from a lighthouse, right when your nerves were rolling waves of absolute nausea in your stomach.

In Roger’s memory - may we all remember to thank those in our lives that help us succeed, that set the stage, give us the strength and stability to step out, to find our voice and change our world.



Dwayne Windham - April 15, 2014 at 01:38 PM



“ Dear Roger,

I'm so sorry to hear of your passing. Of course it was through Toastmasters that I met you and Lark. Its has been awhile since I've seen you and I know you would remember me because it is your way to be warm and present always and you've never let me down in that way.

I've seen you speak on several occasions and the thing I will remember is your uncanny way of crafting a message with the eloquence of a master of the English language and the humor of a brilliant old soul.

I will miss you.

Alex



Alex North - April 15, 2014 at 12:44 PM



“ My most favorite memory of this man is when my Jana was a tiny baby and attended Toastmasters meetings with me. He always always made her feel special and made me feel affirmed. That seems so long ago on some days, but in thinking of Roger today it feels like just yesterday ... he could make that sweet little baby quit crying like no one else could. A very amazing and special man to me and to Jana!

Elizabeth Taplin - April 15, 2014 at 10:20 AM



“ Ms. Elizabeth. I have a pic of Roger holding Jana during a break at the Division Contest where he was the Toastmaster. She was probably about 7-8 months old. He was definitely a Baby Whisperer although in this picture, she was crying, LOL!

Cindy - April 23, 2014 at 11:55 AM



“ I met Roger through Toastmasters. I had the pleasure of serving in District Leadership with Lark who introduced me to Roger. I have such fond memories of many discussions at TM events and at the lighthouse - one particularly "lively" discussion was over my decision to hyphenate my last name. You never had to wonder what he was thinking! Lark - I send my love and warm wishes. He will be missed, but most importantly, he will be remembered as someone who made a difference in our lives.

Nancy Starr-Cassidy - April 15, 2014 at 09:15 AM



“ So sorry to hear Roger is gone. In 2005 I was contemplating moving to Austin and Roger & Lark let me stay in the lighthouse, which had just been built and not 100% finished and they hadn't even moved into it yet. And Lark only knew me a little and Roger had never even met me, yet they were so kind to us and such great hosts. I always enjoyed hearing Roger talk about the things that should be changed, and all of his great contest speeches. Roger was truly extraordinary.

Steve Lockwood - April 15, 2014 at 09:15 AM



“ I met Roger at a Toastmasters District Conference a few years ago. He struck me as a charming man. What I didn't know as I sat at dinner with him and others that evening was that he would be one of the contest speakers. Nor did I know, until I heard his speech, that he had already outlived the doctors' expectations of dying within 6 months of his cancer diagnosis.

Roger was an enthusiastic speaker that continued to participate in Toastmasters meetings and contents long after the dreaded diagnosis. It always gave me pleasure to see and hear him. No doubt he will continue to speak to us all.

Roxanne Merizalde - April 13, 2014 at 10:02 AM



“ Paragraph 2: 'contents' should be 'contests'.

Roxanne Merizalde - April 13, 2014 at 10:04 AM



“ Aart Millecam lit a candle in memory of Roger Anthony Storer



Aart Millecam - April 13, 2014 at 08:26 AM