

Chris Holloway – Funeral Tributes

Chris Holloway
7th September 1951 – 11th January 2021



Chris was born in Chelmsford in 1951 although she lived at Coalhouse Fort in East Tilbury. She was always very proud of living in the Fort as it was a very interesting and different place to grow up. In her childhood she moved to Basildon when it became a new town where her father ran a grocers shop. The family eventually settled in Corringham. Chris had a sister and a brother.

Chris went on to enter the world of work with Essex Police as a court clerk and secretary which is where she met Ron, who gave her a lift home from work one day as she had missed the bus! Well, as you all know Ron went on to become her husband. They were married in All Saints Church in Vange in 1973 and lived in Pitsea but in 1975 moved to Harlow when the M11 was opened and Ron landed his dream police role in the Traffic Section.

Chris then embarked on her proudest career of all, being a wonderfully devoted wife to Ron and mother to Tasha and surrounded herself in a wealth of activities at St Mary's Church, Great Parndon, the PTA and Crafting as well as supporting Tasha in her Musical Endeavours. She supported Ron in his career, and was a devoted Police wife which at time took patience and resilience but it was one she loved through and through. During this time, Chris was an active member of everything she did, but everything revolved around the church and her family. As time went on, Chris and Ron's dream was to move to the west country which they achieved in 1996 when they moved to Clevedon in North Somerset. During this time, they spent many happy years enjoying life with their friends in Clevedon and in particular at Kenn Road Methodist church. As Ron's health deteriorated and the lure of a grandson, Chris and Ron moved to Rochford to spend as much time with their family.

Chris loved holidays and travelling (even though she hated flying) and spent many happy family holidays in Cornwall but also travelled to Italy, Spain, United States, Cyprus and Croatia over the years. In her later years, she didn't need much excuse for a holiday or a mini break and travelled widely in the UK. Her holiday highlight of her life, was plucking up the courage to get on a plane and travel Route 66, she enjoyed every moment and hardly a day didn't go past when she didn't talk about it or sing the song by the Eagles; Take it Easy, which includes the line, 'I've been standing on a corner in Winslow, Arizona' which is when she would pipe up with 'I've been there! I am sure many of you can see her doing this.

Chris was the easiest of people to talk to; she always had time to chat and could make anyone and everyone feel very special in her presence and I am sure many of you have had some lovely chats with Chris. Chris enjoyed being a steward here and reading in church until circumstances made it difficult for her to continue.

I am sure many of you experienced her culinary delights and in particular her making of scones. Scones for afternoon teas became Chris's forte as if there is a scone to be made, she was there.

Chris loved music and went on to sing in choirs over the years, was a member of many craft and lacemaking clubs in Harlow, Clevedon and in Rochford and was an active member of the Rochford Women's Institute. I know that her friends in the triple H choir, describe her as that lovely happy jolly lady and I am sure that all of you reading this

agree that this is the perfect description. She loved being part of the choir here. Although, Chris and Ron were unable to come to church for some time, you were and continue to be a huge part of their lives. Both Chris and Ron take comfort in that they have friends in the church and their faith never faltered.

Chris's main love was her family, she was the most wonderful Wife, Daughter, Mum, Nanny, Mum in Law and Friend anyone could wish for. For Chris, family came first above all else.

Chris wasn't scared of dying, she truly believed, due to her faith that this isn't the end and how right she is. She lived her final weeks with such courage and bravery.

Chris wasn't much of a drinker being the good Methodist she is however loved a good cup of tea. So as we reflect now reading this and when you are at home, raise a thought whilst drinking your cup of tea to Chris and spend some time smiling.

More Tributes

Chris was an enthusiastic member of the **Church Social and Fundraising team**, always happy to help with events. She was a very good cook, always willing to provide scones for a coffee morning, cake stall at the Christmas Bazaar or Afternoon tea .A much- appreciated friend and team member, she will be sadly missed.

June, Gill and the Social/Fundraising Team.

Chris joined the **Triple H Community Choir** back in 2017 and became a much-valued member of the alto section. During her time with the choir, she attended regular weekly rehearsals at the church, and took part in a number of concerts and the choir's entries into the Leigh Music Festival helping the choir win the silver medal in the Community Choir class in 2018 and the gold in 2019. She will be greatly missed".

Chris Holloway was an integral face in The Triple H Community Choir, who always made a point of arriving early and engaging in conversation with her fellow singers. She joined the alto section and never seemed to miss a rehearsal, regardless of whatever other challenges she might have been faced with.

It feels like someone who was shaping up to be a stalwart of the Choir has been taken from us too soon. Initially she joined with her husband Ron, who sang with the tenors, but then as Ron's health weakened she started coming on her own, though Ron almost always showed for the concerts.

She clearly loved Ron a great deal. So much so, and she talked about him so often, that it felt like Ron had never had to leave the Choir. She added to the sense of the Choir being a community, not just a group of singers, and there will be vacant place now when our rehearsals start again, where Chris once sat. We will miss her very much and thank her for all she gave and added to The Triple H Community Choir.

Ashley & Richard