

**TRIBUTE TO RICHARD PERCY RIX HABERSHON (1919–January 29th, 2005)
WRITTEN BY HIS GRANDSON, ANDREW
READ AT HIS FUNERAL BY HIS GRANDSON, STEWART**

Each of us here today will have their own memories of my grandfather, Dar: an engineer, a racing car driver, a film maker. Above all, though, we will remember him as a devoted husband, father and grandfather. A firm and trusted friend. A true gentleman.

As our grandfather, Dar never ceased in doing all he could to help us. During holidays, he would always find interesting places for us to visit. At other times, and at a moments notice, he would drive miles across the country to see us or collect us. Nothing was ever too much trouble. We are indebted to him for the commitment he gave us and the affection he showed.

Going to the cottage was always something to look forward to. And you knew that from the moment you arrived you would be welcomed in and treated like a king or queen. Dar would ensure that everything was taken care of, down to the very last detail: drinks, the washing up, the sleeping arrangements, freshly squeezed orange juice would always be waiting for us at the breakfast table the next morning. It was his thoughtfulness and awareness of other people's needs that truly marked him out. We shall remember the times we spent with him collecting apples in the orchard, packing them into sacks and taking them up to the farm. We shall remember walks on the hills, trips to the lake to feed the ducks or to see his friend John across the common.

Dar was a man of many talents. In his earlier days he was an accomplished racing and rally car driver. Many will remember his gift for the piano. It was always a pleasure to hear him play classic tunes after lunch. A great fettler too, Dar frequently lent a hand with his technical expertise. If something needed to be fixed, you could be sure that he would have the tool and the knowledge to fix it.

We will all remember Dar as a cheerful spirit; someone who could always bring a smile to another's face. Not least with his rendition of "Albert and the Lion", which he had down to a tee. He was someone who loved comedy - Ronnie Barker's "Open all hours", "the Morcambe and Wise Show" and Tommy Cooper's comedy slot were personal favorites of his. Throughout his illness, he never forgot this sense of humour and we admire him greatly for this.

Dar, you were the perfect role model to have and we shall always be mindful of the example you have set us. We shall miss you immensely.