

DENZIL HYDLEMAN

When I was discussing with Denzil's brother the content of this address, I said that I hardly knew him. Michael said, "Not many people did". It is true that he appeared to be a shy and reclusive man. In his childhood and youth, the fourth born in a family of five boisterous children, he had been ill and perhaps more closely protected against the world than would be the case today. It was not until he was 52 years old that he was able, with the devoted help of Alan Luff Edwards, ^{he} to set up his own home. He worked in the family business and, when this moved from Surrey to Yorkshire, he and Alan moved first to Harrogate and then to Ilkley, where he lived until he died.

In his twenty-seven years of independence, he took enormous pride in his home and the management of his material circumstances. In retirement, he vigilantly followed the vagaries of the financial markets and preserved and nurtured his resources unaided by any of his family. His father, who died in 1949, and to whom Denzil was his greatest concern, would never have predicted the self-sufficiency that he achieved.

Among gatherings of people, he appeared to be silent and taciturn, although he would, if a congenial person approached him, happily ensconce himself in a corner of the room to talk to them. Face to face, in a small group where he felt at ease, he would reveal a mordant wit that was prevalent in all of his family.

This day we consecrate the memorial for Denzil Hydleman whom we described a few months ago as an honest and upright, if reserved gentle gentleman, who minded his own business, did not get in the way of anybody and did what he thought was right, which it always was. Not for him the bright lights of life. He was an introvert and there is nothing wrong with that, had an unassuming and quiet manner and was happy that way, spreading along the way some of that happiness to those few with whom he came into contact. But those few were enriched by his refined demeanour and righteousness.

His body is at rest and his soul is enshrined with God, that God ~~one~~ whose primary functions is to look after souls, but especially of those who revered him, which Denzil did in his own way, without fuss or oneupmanship. We hope and pray that his soul will repose in God's heaven where there is no ill, no pain, no evil, only goodness for ever and a day. Amen