

## A Testimony to the Grace of God as shown in the Life of Roger H Quinn.

Roger was a lovely family man, with a wry, and at times mischievous, sense of humour and a lovely inner smile.

He started life, in the then, small town of Seaford in Sussex where his father was a senior teacher in one of the prep schools of the day. Rogers paternal grandfather was an Anglican minister, the last in a family dynasty dating back generations, Roger was thus brought up with a strong spiritual background in a loving family.

It is not clear from his book 'A life to live by' how Roger first came across Quakers. He speaks of a long time ago "when all the world was young" of growing cut flowers to supply local hotels and shops. He became a member of Lewis Young Farmers Club at 18 and as a nurseryman mentions providing flowers for a Quaker wedding in Dublin.

Roger mentions attending Meetings at Brighton, Lewes, Eastbourne and Bath. But a holiday in Dublin seems to have been a life changing event that led to the well 'kirked' Quakers of Dublin Monthly Meeting and sideways steps from a nurseryman to head gardener. Work Camps at Chertsey and Derrynane seemed to play an important part too. Life was very good in Dublin he says and it is there he became a member of the Society of Friends. The influence of Irish Friends stayed strong all his life and influenced his brand of Quakerism. They gave him the certainty of belief that Christ worked through him.

Not long after becoming a member Roger moved to the Dochfour Estate and became part of the fledgling Meeting at Inverness, then a meeting of four Friends supported by visiting Friends from Aberdeen. Roger was correspondent for Inverness and an Elder and Overseer for the Monthly Meeting for over a decade. He saw his role more as an Elder and was a stickler for the right ordering of Meetings. He finally asked to be released saying that he had seen the effects of being in post too long. He was valued for his presence amongst us, his deep commitment to his faith, his vast Biblical knowledge that provided great depth and wisdom to his, often pithy, verbal ministry and his ability to smile at all adversity.

It was in Aberdeen that Roger met Kathleen and that led to Newtonhill croft, family life and Roger's vocation as a family man, enabled at the same time to retain his love of flowers. He was a popular, sort after figure when selling his colourful seasonal plants at local markets from the back of his truck. In his later years there was nothing better than to greet visitors and to sit out and be part of nature as a true country man.