

Testimony to the Grace of God as shown in the life of Pat Kass

Our Friend Pat Kass, who died on 07.06.2006, was a small, learned, quiet woman with a keen intellect, brave heart, and a compassionate soul. She was also surprising in her strength and courage.

Although seriously ill in the last few years of her life, she continued to attend Meeting for Worship at Perth as often as she could and contributed to the life of the meeting. She ministered, verbally, infrequently, but what she said was always deeply felt and moving.

A Samaritan during her life in London, Pat served as overseer in Perth, represented the meeting on the Perth Council of Churches and maintained interests, especially in the homeless and prisoners. Instead of serving the latter as a Visitor or in another elevated position, she worked as a canteen volunteer – where she was able to support both other volunteers and prisoners' families – to be replaced, eventually, by a drinks machine. She learned to drive, in retirement; not easy at that age but necessary for living in an isolated place.

To the world, Pat was Patricia Doubell, writer and poet, a dance teacher from London who settled in Scotland to be close to family and who joined – and impressed – local writers' groups.

To Friends, Pat was always there, always keen to help, a focus of calm and peace in the meeting. We worried about her when she went off, by herself, to Bulgaria to research her latest book; we were amazed when she declared she was going to the circus, equally alone.

In death she was as unselfish as she had been in life. She wanted no fuss; she wanted no funeral. She willed her body to the medical school at the university, in the cause of science.

No list would be adequate to state the ways everyone who knew her will miss Pat Kass.

*Constance M Tonge
Perth Meeting – with help from other Friends and friends*