On behalf of mum and the family can I just say thanks for being here, for all the cards received, best wishes, food made, and the various acts of kindness.

Stanley Woods. Some people know him as Gunner Woods, Others Pastor Woods, Some Mr Woods, even JP, or just Stan – but to us he was dad

We would like to tell you about a few Things he loved

Firstly The City of Liverpool.

Being the  place where he was Born, where he grew up, Found his faith in Jesus. Appreciated the finest football  team, Of course Liverpool FC. He always told us he was on the staff at Anfield only to find out that he a programme seller, but this meant that he got to watch the match for free. He learnt his trade as a joiner which became invaluable around our houses, and of course with the building extensions and alterations which were needed in his churches. Of course he met Brenda there and last year they celebrated their Diamond wedding anniversary. Quite an achievement.

He loved his Family

One of 8 children and he Loved them all. There are two surviving Arthur in New Zealand and Harry in London . Harry we don't fully understand as he grew up supporting Everton.

Dad called his immediate family 2-4-6. 2 boys, 4 Grandchildren. And 6 Great grand children.

Whenever we get together we always have lots of fun & laughter.  We are not a competitive family really but winning is a must if you are a woods. He had a great love, concern, and real interest in everything that we did. Dad and mum helped us all in whatever way they could. A true figurehead both naturally speaking but also spiritually.

Dad loved Live action

Watching any of us playing sport, referring , fishing, playing musical instruments, preaching.

Although he was a busy man he made time for us all.

Taking us to football matches (Liverpool of course), the Edinburgh tattoo, Last night of the proms, And who can forget our cruise - where's dad gone !! Dad disappears one night. On searching the ship we found him in the live lounge piano bar, he had been there each night listening and giving requests to the pianist - in fact he got to know dad so well he would welcome him with the greeting –

“Hi Staaaaaan.”

This brought a big beaming smile to his face.

His Love for the Lord Jesus.

This shaped his life. From a teenager in a church hall pouring out his tea over the table apparently disinterested - to accepting Jesus as Lord and Saviour. He just wanted to share his faith – “Are you in, Are you fully in, Are you bringing others in?” was a well used phrase. He certainly fulfilled that over the years - many of you are testament to that.

Preaching, Counselling, Pastor of four churches, Missionary in South America, helping churches through difficult times, a Prison Chaplain, involvement with major outreach events such as the Billy Graham broadcast nearby at Willington, the list is really endless. He also found interests that brought him into contact with people such as the Bible Times Exhibition, joining a Woodturning group, his Magic tricks, working as a Justice of the Peace.

As children dad gave us an interesting life, heres a few examples

In Highley, in the midlands

- Seeing our mum on the roof of the church to paint it.

- Dad being so respected in the village we could walk past the chip shop and they would call us in and give us free chips.

- It was the village where we saw our first TV

He took us to South America in 1966 as part of his missionary work it certainly left a deep impression

- Walking freely around a cargo ship across the Atlantic. Remember we were only 10 and 6

- Our cat died after it got bit by a spider, mind you the spider was the size of a fist,

- Sucking raw sugar cane, eating wild mangos and coconuts

- Seeing various wildlife: sea snakes, monkeys, crocodiles, ants climbing up the stilts of our house, and lizards but to name but a few

- And of course missing the only time England won the world cup

In Partington, Manchester, dad taught us invaluable driving skills.

The church, we really mean Dad, bought a coach.

So we learnt:

If it doesn’t start then you must Push it.

If the light doesn’t work you Thump it

If you have a flat tyre: Everyone off the bus to lift it up while we change it

If the radiator is out of water: use whatever you have – orange juice

I’m not sure he loved this section but it's worth noting he has put pen to paper

To help understand scriptures he produced various booklets on how we should act: Dealing with conflict, Giving, Leadership, to name just three.

I was at work and on a break and picked up a magazine and read an article on Spontaneous Combustion .. Only to read comments by. .. You guessed it Pastor Stan Woods.

Dad wasn't really into technology. We bought him a mobile phone .. He used to say nobody called him on it ... Well dad if you had turned the thing on it would have helped. He regularly went to Keswick Convention. We knew we could catch up with him at 10pm ... Because that was when he turned his phone on.

Mum bought him a laptop ... He came to our church computer cafe .. I think it was to chat to people really - but he has written his life story ... Here’s an extract that is taken from the chapter dealing with his illness 'Living with Cancer'

One night they thought that I was having a heart attack, latter it was confirmed that it was not a heart attack but fluid around my heart, the doctors and nursing staff were around my bed from midnight until the morning, during that time a funny thing happened, laying in bed I could see about six or seven doctors and nurses, the doctor in charge said to me “ I am doctor Bell, have you heard of me “ my Liverpool humour started to bubble up, I replied yes doctor I do know about doctor Bell, he asked “what do you know ?, I replied:

 “Doctor Bell fell down the well

 and broke his collar bone,

 a Doctor should attend the sick

 and leave the well alone.”

The staff burst out laughing, but not Doctor Bell, I don’t think he got the joke not being English, maybe he did not understand the subtlety of British humour.

Dad loved Reading

Of course he loved his Bible. A source of inspiration and basis for his life. He also enjoyed Biggles books. He's got quite a collection at home. Now for those that don't know: James Bigglesworth, nicknamed "Biggles", is a fictional pilot and adventurer, written by W. E. Johns for **youthful** readers. However it is based on a real RAF pilot Major James Bigglesworth.

Now you may have seen him reading but not realised which book he was reading as he sometimes disguised the cover with wrapping paper... Especially whilst in hospital.

I'm not sure dad would appreciate a newspaper report on the 9th Feb this year– When A real life pilot nicknamed Biggles was jailed for 19 years for smuggling £33.5 million worth of cocaine into Britain.

We mentioned dad saying his family was 2-4-6. We think that should really be updated to

1-2-4-6-1000s

1-Brenda his wife

2- Bob & Dave his sons ( and Jeanette & Sylvia his daughters in law)

4 - Colin, Kim, Andrew and Yvonne his grandchildren. Not forgetting his extended family of Louise, Robert and Olivia

6- Jenna Lee, Jamie, Bailey, Taylor, Sam and James his great Grandchildren

1000s - The numerous lives that have been impacted by dads life.

To sum up he was a great a man in all aspects of life, work, and family.

Husband,

Dad,

Minister.

No one could want a better dad or role model. But he wouldn’t want you to be sad. All his life he has preached he would meet his Lord.

God Bless

Love you dad.