

# Derek John Keene

## A Farewell Ceremony

27th December 1942 – 17th April 2021



Honor Oak Crematorium  
Wednesday 5th May 2021  
at 1.00pm



Derek's many interests included joinery, wood-turning, scything, hedge laying and woodland management in the family field in Dorset.

He loved adventurous walking and hiking, particularly long distances over many days in places including Scotland, Crete, Greece, the Rocky Mountains and Norway. He travelled widely, often with Suzanne, and had many friends and colleagues in numerous countries.



# Order of Service



## Entrance to the Chapel

AVE MARIS STELLA

*Monteverde - The Sixteen*

*Ceremony led by Jo Beddington, Humanists UK*

Welcome

Eulogy

## Memories of Derek

*Family and colleagues*

## Contemplation

AVE MARIA

*Josquin des Prez*

*Ensemble Weser-Renaissance Bremen*

## Committal

## Heaven's Haven

*Gerard Manley Hopkins*

I have desired to go  
Where springs not fail,  
To fields where flies no sharp and sided hail  
And a few lilies blow.

And I have asked to be  
Where no storms come,  
Where the green swell is in the havens dumb,  
And out of the swing of the sea.



## Closing Words

### Music as we Leave

PEACE

*Ornette Coleman*

### St Swithun's Bridge

*Author Unknown – Translation by Lesley Saunders*

Traveller, whoever you may be, as your gaze rests on this city-gate,  
take a moment to say a prayer, speak it with a whole and humble heart to Him  
who makes the heavens ring. Do this for Christ's servant Swithun,  
once bishop here: he spared no effort, no expense, to have this elegant  
structure built, this splendid bridge, to adore our Christ and adorn  
our town of Winchester.

The sun had circled eight hundred times and fifty nine on its  
ordained yearly journey since Christ's pity had taken fleshly form:  
it was in the seventh tax cycle.

*Written in the 9th century based on a Latin inscription on Eastgate Bridge built by St  
Swithun in 859. Crossing the River Itchen from London  
was a major undertaking so it was important it was built. Derek's thesis  
was on early Winchester. He worked there, his children were born in  
the city and the family lived in a small hamlet nearby for many  
years before moving to London.*

### description of box.

I made this box from a small, broken branch of cypress wood that I picked up in the 'White Mountains' of southwest Crete in 2001. It was in a valley called Achlada just below and to the southwest of the mountain called Strifomadi. The actual place was in the ravine below some ruined huts once used by shepherds. Much further down the valley is the village or little town of Konstoyerako, scene of some fierce fighting in WW II. The wood is twisted, has many splits and was quite difficult to work. For the lid, I kept to the shape of the branch. The finish is beeswax.

Ⓟ.





Suzanne, Frances and Thomas thank everyone for their presence here today and for the many kind messages of support and love over the last few weeks.

Donations in Derek's memory can be made to a memorial fund that we are establishing in partnership with the Institute for Historical Research. The fund will be used in a way that reflects his work and to support the development of early-stage career historians.

[www.derek-keene.co.uk/donate](http://www.derek-keene.co.uk/donate)

Funeral arrangements by



[www.poetic-endings.com](http://www.poetic-endings.com)



