

**John Gordon.
15th December 1945 - 12th August 2021.
Eulogy by Tony Pearce.
25th October 2021.**



THANKS JOHN

Good morning Everyone.

Meeting you all here.

I realise that there are three stages in life:

Youth, Middle Age and "Hello Tony. You're looking well!"

We are gathered here today to give our

THANKS to John.

Particularly to swimming.

From teaching the beginner to swim

To refining the elite.

By his own example, inspiring fellow swimmers.

Not to mention, in my opinion, founding masters swimming in this country.

Yes, John may be gone. But he will not be forgotten.

To illustrate this I have chosen a short poem to recite.

By the famous American poet Edna St Vincent Millay entitled
"Dirge without Music."

I and Me.

We and Us.

*I am not resigned to the shutting away of loving hearts in the hard
ground.*

So it is, and so it will be for so it has been, time out of mind;

Into the darkness they go the wise and the lovely. Crowned.

With lilies and with laurel they go: but I am not resigned.

Down, down, down into the darkness of the grave,

Gently they go, the beautiful, the tender, the kind:

Quietly they go, the intelligent, the witty, the brave;

I know.

But We do not approve.

And We are not resigned.

To pay personal respects to John.

One has to define him.

Well, here's my definition:

"There is an old saying

They just don't make them like that anymore

With John they didn't

There was only one John Gordon."

THANKS JOHN.

Tony Pearce.