

Reflections

Heartful we reflect upon the life and deeds of our friend and benefactor William Duncan Silkworth. As physician-saint this rare man was, we A.A.s see him, among the greatest of God's gentlefolk.

We shall remember him as one of the architects of our well-loved Society. The first doctor ever to befriend us, he described the true nature of our strange malady. At peril to his career, he filled us with high hope in our pioneering time; though a man of science he boldly set his approval on the book Alcoholics Anonymous, thus prescribing a spiritual remedy for our sinister illness. Over the years that followed, he stood by the bedside of uncounted thousands, the healing art in his hands and compelling love in his eyes. We - the Children of the Night - knew that he understood; we followed him out into the light of Day.

In this time we know, too, that his good lady and all others near must share with us the certainty that a place has been prepared for him; that this very day he dwells in one of our Father's mansions among that great company of God's gentlemen who have gone on before.