



Roy Burton

JUN 14, 1947 - JUL 19, 2015



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Funeral Home & Cemetery

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Roy Burton

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Roy Burton, 68 of Germantown passed away July 19, 2015. He was born June 14, 1947 in Ulverston, Cumbria, England. He graduated from Imperial College London with a B.Sc., (Special Honours) in Theoretical Physics. Roy had an extensive career in the electronic industry including Phillips Electronics, ITT, and Amphenol Corporation. In 1989, Roy relocated to the United States where he held the following positions with Amphenol Corporation: Vice President and General Manager of Aerospace, Vice President and General Manager of Commercial Operation and Corporate Vice President. In 1994, Roy relocated to Memphis to join Thomas & Betts Corporation where he held the position of Group President of Electronics and grew the business 10 fold by the year 2000; this business was subsequently sold at a significant profit. Roy joined Dialight in 2002. He served as the Chief Executive of Dialight plc and was instrumental in transforming the company from a division of a larger UK group to the independent company it is today through his unique combination of energy, drive and commitment. After more than 12 years with Dialight the share price grew 10 times and Dialight Corporation was invited to join the FTSE Index. Roy is survived by his wife, Keely Burton of Germantown, TN; his daughters, Natalie Zara Burton of Dallas, TX and Georgina Sophie Burton of Boston, MA; sister, Pamela Whittam of Ulverston, Cumbria, England; nephew, Stephen Whittam of Preston, Lancashire, England and his step daughter, Elizabeth Damoc of Dallas, TX. Roy was a loving husband, father, brother and friend, he will be greatly missed by all who knew him. The family will receive friends on Thursday, July 23 from 3 pm until memorial service at 4 pm in the Riverside Chapel of Memorial Park Funeral Home. A reception will follow services. Memorials may be made to the National Pancreatic Cancer Foundation Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to Memorial Park Funeral Home and Cemetery, 5668 Poplar Ave. Memphis, TN 38119, "Behind the Stone Wall"



Tribute Wall

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JD

John Doyle posted:

It's taken many years to post this but it still seems like we talked a weeks ago. I followed Roy to three different companies and worked for him over the span of 30 years. A mentor, boss, and good friend! We shared so many great memories in our travels around the world. He shaped my life and beliefs as much as anyone I've ever known. Truly a remarkable person in so many ways. Roy will be missed by many, forgotten by none! May you rest in peace my friend!

January 12 at 10:40 AM

DE

Dennis posted:

Roy, Just found out you passed away and I'm very sad. What a loss for all of us. My days at T&B Automotive, kicking Tyco butt was some of my best career days. You took chances I've never seen and created something Tyco wasted away. You were a great guy to work with/for.

October 23 at 4:12 AM

JS

Jacob Steendam posted:

One of the brightest and most inspiring guys I have ever met. I like to extend my sincere condolences to his family. Since the middle of the 80's Roy has been always on my mind. Jacob Steendam

August 21 at 4:16 AM

JB

James Brantley posted:

As a former employee of Thomas & Betts/Electronics Division and someone that worked closely with Roy for several years, I extend my sincere condolences to the family. Peace be with you. James Brantley

July 27 at 8:52 AM

MS

Mark Soh posted:

Rest in Peace my friend, my colleague. All the words we have cannot describe the loss and the hole in our heart. You made the difference not only in the Company but in many of our life. For me, you have touched us with your trust, sincerity, humour, and warmth. For Roy's Family, may i share with you that Roy speaks of you often, you being his joy and his happiness. With much love, from all of us in Asia Mark Soh

July 24 at 8:06 AM



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MB

Matt Boudiette posted:

To Roy's family, I wish to send my condolences and let you know it was a privilege and great experience working on Roy's team the past thirteen years. I have never met brighter and harder working individual and his counsel, guidance, and sharp wit will be something I will carry with me for the rest of my career and life. It was a pleasure knowing Roy and he will be missed more than he ever could of imagined.

July 23 at 12:49 PM

BG

Bill & Heather Gibbs posted:

Bill & Heather Gibbs purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Roy Burton.

July 23 at 12:27 PM

RA

Rizwan Ahmad posted:

Friday (17-July-2015), at 8:39am EST, almost 48-hrs before Roy's departure, he sent me a note, 'Is it happy Eid yet?' Eid is celebration day for Muslim at the end of fasting month (Ramadan). Friday was Eid. I replied back to him that yes it is today. Roy's came back and said, 'Best wishes to you and family'. In fact, this was one way of him saying 'Good Bye' to me. That was the last I heard from him ... I know that one sentence, 'Best wishes to you and family'. will be unforgettable memory of my life. I have shared the snapshot of my phone screen in the photos and videos section. Rizwan Ahmad of Dialight Corporation

July 23 at 9:26 AM

GW

Greg Wasserman posted:

As Dialight's largest shareholder, I've had the honor of working very closely with Roy since 2010. Roy is easily one of the best and most dedicated CEOs I've ever worked with. But more importantly, he's also just a great all-around guy. And an optimist and fighter to the end. I've truly enjoyed all of our meetings, calls, discussions, debates, and dinners over the years, and wish we could have had more. My sincere condolences to his family. He talked about you a lot, so I know how much you mean to him and can only imagine how much he means to you. I will truly miss you, my friend. I hope you are now at peace.

July 23 at 9:15 AM



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DF

Dialight Corp: Rizwan Ahmad & Fatima Riz posted:

Dialight Corp: Rizwan Ahmad & Fatima Rizwan purchased the Written in the Stars for the family of Roy Burton.

July 23 at 9:08 AM

RA

Rizwan Ahmad posted:

Being at Dialight for 15 Years and working directly for Roy Burton for more than a decade, one thing which I have been unable to understand that whether Dialight was family to Roy or his family was Dialight. We all know that Roy was all-time-engaged person with Dialight business, but in addition he was also very much engaged to Dialight employees. He used to share our happiness and sorrows and it is no simple thing as a CEO. I am sure he is one of the most talked person at homes of Dialight employees. Earlier this year, my son Hassan (8-yrs) participated in a biz-world activity in his school. Different teams/companies were formed to compete with each other and members of each team were asked what role they would like to play in their companies and why. Hassan asked for CEO position. When asked why, his answer also surprised me ... 'My Dad's boss is Roy Burton and he is CEO of the company and we always talk about him and that's why I want to be CEO as well.' I shared this with Roy few days after and behind the phone lines, I could easily feel tears in his eyes. Rizwan Ahmad of Dialight Corporation

July 23 at 8:57 AM

RA

Rizwan Ahmad posted:

I know my words wouldn't be sufficient to express my feelings and condolence for Roy Burton. However, one thing is sure that I will not use 'was' for him, but continue using 'is' because regardless his physical position is changed from this world to hereafter, we are now spiritually connected to him and this bond is forever. If there is any hereafter then he is among few people in my life who I would like to meet after my journey to that world. Roy Burton was a true leader and indeed a good mentor, guide, and a friend. His leadership truly have changed lives of most of us at Dialight for positive. Indeed, we are forever indebted to him for this. 2015 is 'Year of Sorrow' – first we lost him as a leader and now we have lost him again forever. Being at Dialight for 15 years, I feel myself lucky that I got chance to work for him for more than a decade. 'Surely we belong to God and to Him shall we return'!! I pray that God Almighty honors his soul with highest rank in the Hereafter and gives courage to his family to bear this loss. Rizwan Ahmad of Dialight Corporation

July 23 at 8:28 AM



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CD

Colleagues From Dialight Bti Denmark posted:

Colleagues from Dialight BTI Denmark purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Roy Burton.

July 22 at 2:23 PM

CG

Colleagues From Dialight Garufo posted:

Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time. We are so sorry for your loss. Our sincere condolences to his family and friends. Michael Hertrich, Jean Dorsch and Michael Klocza & all colleagues from Dialight Garufo in Bavaria, Germany!

July 22 at 2:11 PM

AS

Ash posted:

First we skied together, on wild, icy Scottish mountains, formed bonds that led to a marriage then my God-daughter. Then we helped revitalise two companies. Now we must look forward to meeting again in another snowy place. You were a really good man and a real friend. Nothing on earth is as powerful as real friendship. You will always be part of our life. Thanks for the good times together, Roy. [Man Hug]

July 22 at 1:40 PM

NP

Nick Christodoulou & All At Personal Car posted:

Nick Christodoulou & all at Personal Cars London purchased the Fiery Lily and Rose for the family of Roy Burton.

July 22 at 12:52 PM

FD

From The Board Of Dialight posted:

From the Board of Dialight purchased the Bountiful Rose Basket for the family of Roy Burton.

July 22 at 11:16 AM

MS

Mark Soh, Kimba And Chee Seng posted:

Mark Soh, Kimba and Chee Seng purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Roy Burton.

July 22 at 6:39 AM



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DE

Dennis posted:

The Dialight Manufacturing Team in Roxboro, NC purchased the Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant for the family of Roy Burton.

July 22 at 6:03 AM

TF

The Finance Department At Farmingdale posted:

The Finance Department sends condolences to Roy's family and friends. He will be sorely missed.

July 22 at 5:59 AM

HT

Harry Tee posted:

Harry Tee purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Roy Burton.

July 22 at 5:02 AM

MP

Memorial Park posted:

Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Roy Burton.

July 22 at 4:56 AM

KM

Karen Majeski posted:

This photo of Roy is exactly the way I remember him the first time we met in his NJ office when I interviewed for a sales management position at Dialight. He did ask the tough interview questions during that meeting but then turned the conversation to things I enjoyed doing in my spare time. I learned that day that Roy was a family man, very proud of his daughters, and that he enjoyed a good game of tennis. My sincere condolences to his family in this very difficult time.

July 21 at 7:08 PM

MD

Malcolm Lee And Scott Cauchi, Dialight I posted:

Malcolm Lee and Scott Cauchi, Dialight ILS Australia. purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of Roy Burton.

July 21 at 4:30 PM



Tribute Wall

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DH

Dialight Epc Team, Houston Tx posted:

Dialight EPC Team, Houston TX purchased the Pink Tribute Spray for the family of Thomas Burton.

July 21 at 8:29 AM

GP

Go Investment Partners posted:

Go Investment Partners purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Thomas Burton.

July 21 at 7:54 AM

FS

From Your Friends At Electra Sales - Irv posted:

From your friends at Electra Sales – Irving TX purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Thomas Burton.

July 21 at 6:40 AM

DT

Dialight Ensenada Planning Team posted:

Dialight Ensenada Planning Team purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Thomas Burton.

July 21 at 5:13 AM

MP

Memorial Park posted:

Fiery Lily and Rose was purchased for the family of Thomas Burton.

July 21 at 5:13 AM



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Tim Strand posted:

I remember I was a National Account SalesManager covering IBM world wide for the Thomas & Betts Electronics Division when Roy became the President in 1994. Shortly after being in charge he summoned me one afternoon and told me to report to his office the next morning to provide a briefing on T&B's programs and progress at IBM. Being the first time together I made all the proper preparations to present the products and design-win successes in a detailed presentation. About 15 minutes into my one-on-one presentation he pulled out this old leather note book that he said was his notes from recent visits to several IBM locations. Fearing I was going to be put to the test I realized about 3 minutes into his inquiry that his data was at least a year old. My updated information that morning about new IBM interconnect platforms from several domestic and international IBM locations must have made the right first impression (no easy day with Roy). From then on I was provided the opportunity to earn a position as a Sales Manager at T&B until its sale in 2000. Then I connected with Roy again as a Sales Director at Dialight PLC from 2005-2011. Although to some it was said Roy made sure you earned his money I never looked at it that way. My Dad had instilled a Midwest work ethic in me starting at 14 years old delivering morning newspapers that has stayed with me to this day. I never put together that my work ethic and drive really complimented Roy's enduring expectations until years later. Then I concluded that it was the impact of Roy's leadership synchronicity that influenced me to strive to deliver my best. In short, Roy made you better because he would not accept anything less. For that time, experience and knowledge I will always remember Roy and be Thankful for the time spent winning many more times than not. To Roy's family: Please accept my heartfelt sympathies for your loss...my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this difficult time. – Tim Strand

July 20 at 4:53 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Roy by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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