**I love your beautiful mind…**

In they wander, a host of loving couples.

One of them walks but the other one shuffles.

Wives and husbands devoid of kerfuffles,

leading their spouses across the room.

A husband chats about the latest news.

A wife pipes up, expressing her views.

Their partners gaze like silent statues

sitting on the surface of a darkened moon.

The atmosphere’s pierced by two empty eyes.

A summer sun smothered by thick, cloudy skies.

And who sits next door? A saint in disguise,

a constant carer, an eternal flame of love.

A life full of words - ‘In sickness and in health’.

A selfless act of love and spiritual wealth.

A public expression, not secrecy and stealth,

heading down cruel and twisting paths.

A wonderful woman with an empty mind.

A marvellous man. Why is life so unkind?

Wives and husbands and a contract signed

of love and devotion and continuous care.

A photograph album of holidays in Wales.

A sparkle in their eyes and wind in their sails.

Memories awake! Let’s remember those tales

of a beautiful life spent together!

A golden, true love is present in that room.

It permeates the air and cuts through the gloom.

One half of those couples is locked in a tomb

but their partners’ spirits shine on and on.

*‘We remember special times, we spent together.*

*Sitting in our caravans in unpredictable weather.*

*Raising our children - all birds of a feather*

*and a life full of happiness and memorable days.*

*Our journeys together have not yet ceased.*

*Just one was attacked by a mind-eating beast.*

*But our love for each other has never decreased*

*and that’s why we remain, together as one.*

*You’re my best friend and I love you. I always will.*

*You’re my almond blossom and I miss you still.*

*I will never forget the excitement and thrill*

*of halcyon days and spending my time with you.*

I love you x

And I love your beautiful mind xxx

*For John and Irene Hatton (RIP)*

*And St Helens Alzheimer’s Society x*

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I ‘witnessed’ this poem when I played piano for the St Helens Alzheimer’s Society Christmas sing-a-long a few years back. Couples, one ‘with us’ and one living in their own, private word BUT their LOVE still strong, as on their day of marriage.

‘For I will NEVER forget the way you were…’