

Wife's sudden death leaves man feeling lost

Bill Lee

"Straight on", Pam said. My wife of 42 years knew my navigational skills! We were at a crossroads in the Lake District and she was feeling unwell. She thought the concerned look on my face meant I was lost again. Those were the last words she ever spoke as she passed away. She had been poorly for a long time but her death was a shock. This was October 2005. I was 66 years old and had never believed in the existence of God. On that mountain road **I was totally alone and screamed my lungs out at the sky.** Lost indeed.



The next day I needed to do something, anything! I went out with my camera (a gift from Pam) and took pictures of almost everything. Despite my anguish I saw a never seen beauty through that lens. Within a month I had 1000 pictures, more than I had taken in my life! But sadly, no-one to share them with. **Photography was my escape**, but it became a passion. I joined a photographic website where I could share images.

Bonnie, a lady in America, starting passing comments on my images and this led to a friendship developing. She was so unbelievably kind and patient and had time for a shy and lost Englishman. One day in 2007 she told me her first love was for God. I replied, "Don't worry, we can still be friends". Despite that, we did remain friends. In fact, to be friendly I started sending her some Bible verses that were in a Birthday Book I had acquired from my aunt some years before. But that meant I had to read those verses myself!

One night in October 2007, I found myself kneeling by my bed praying! I had never done that, EVER! I was speaking with God, (who didn't exist!). That night **my heart nearly burst with love and compassion** and an overwhelming feeling of peace that filled my whole being. There was no turning back, for me the great chasm of unbelief simply disappeared.



This photo was taken by Bill just a few days after his wife died.