

In Memory of Rayner Missing (1970 – 2013)

We were all devastated to hear of the death of Rayner Missing on 30 September 2013. He had been suffering from Prion's disease, a genetic disorder which had killed his father and his grandfather. Ironically recent medical research may lead to a cure in a few years, though sadly not soon enough for him.

Rayner joined Charing Guild in 2004 when he played the title role in 'Lord Arthur Savile's Crime' and since then he has delighted audiences with his portrayal of many different parts, notably Edward Jones in 'A Bolt from the Blue', Winston in 'The Village Fête', Shanks, the bra salesman, in 'Habeas Corpus' and, in his final appearance for us, Felix in 'The Odd Couple'.

The Guild has lost not only an exceptionally good actor but a very popular member who will be missed as much off stage as he will be on it.



Tributes from members on hearing the news

My heart is heavy at the loss of a wonderful person, a fine actor and a youthful pillar of society. He will be greatly missed. Please pass on my sincere condolences to his wife and family. Gladys Lopato

So sad, he was a lovely man and has a young family. Felicity

I cannot stop thinking about the laughs we shared when we did Habeas Corpus a few years ago. A talented, witty, nice bloke who was so full of life. It was a real privilege to know him.

I would just like to add that Lynn, who was also in Habeas Corpus, was obviously just as shocked and saddened to hear the news about Rayner as I was. She asked me to pass on her best wishes and thoughts to his family and friends who will miss him so much. Lynn & Glenn Bryan

I only knew Rayner at and during the 'Odd Couple' production, but I was struck by how pleasant a person he was. I was sorry to hear the announcement that he would not perform again, being ignorant of his condition, but I was very shocked to hear of his passing. My thoughts are with his family at this time and I am minded that only the good die young. R.I.P. Rayner. John Roberts

I have no words to express the level of sorrow and sadness; so tragic, please pass our condolences to the family. Grace

I am so sad and sorry to hear of the passing of Rayner. Such a lovely young man with so much talent; what a waste to leave us so early and a loss to everyone. My heart goes out to all those who have been caring for him and who will miss him so. For Rayner.... I wish you God speed and a safe journey. I am glad to have known you. Shania

Please pass on my condolences to Rayner's family he was a great character actor as well as a general all round nice guy. Gareth

I was deeply shocked when I heard of Rayner's illness but I never thought he would pass away so soon. One gets used to degenerative diseases taking over long sometimes to finally overcome people, but this was so swift. He was himself so full of life and energy. My condolences to his family and friends. Brian Chalmers

That is terrible news. A real shock. As you say, we will all miss him terribly. Alison Howe



as Lieut Gruber in 'Allo 'Allo

with David Abson
in Comfort and Joy



with Heather Leslie and Carolyn Banham
in The Odd Couple



with John Eason in A Bolt from the Blue