



IN LOVING MEMORY

# In Loving Memory of Gurpreet Singh Dhaliwal

14th February 1970 – 22nd April 2025

*Beloved Husband, Devoted Father, Servant of the Sangat*





## **Gurpreet Singh Dhaliwal**

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Gurpreet Singh Dhaliwal was born on 14 February 1970 in Wolverhampton, the third of five children of Mohan Singh and Surjit Kaur Dhaliwal, who had come from Jalandhar in 1965. He grew up in a household anchored by the Gurdwara: Sikh prayer before school, kirtan on weekends, the Gurdwara kitchen as the place where the family was always known to be found on a Sunday morning. He never lost that orientation. It became his own.

He qualified as a civil engineer and spent most of his career at the West Midlands Combined Authority, managing infrastructure projects with steady competence and an unwillingness to cut corners that made him well-regarded and occasionally inconvenient. He was not interested in advancement for its own sake. He did his work and he came home to his family. He married Harpreet Kaur in 1997 and they built a life in Walsall together — three daughters, a house full of noise, and a standing invitation to Sunday langar that most of their extended family accepted weekly.

At the Gurdwara, Gurpreet served on the management committee for eight years and led the langar kitchen for five, overseeing the move to a new kitchen facility that was completed in 2023. He cooked dal on a scale that

was frankly impressive. He had a good voice for kirtan — not trained, but clear and sincere — and a capacity for laughter that made difficult meetings shorter.

Gurpreet passed away on 22 April 2025 following a heart attack. He was 55 years old. He is survived by Harpreet, their daughters Navneet, Ravinder and Amrit, his parents, and his four siblings. Waheguru Ji Ka Khalsa, Waheguru Ji Ki Fateh.

## ANNOUNCEMENT

### **Passing of Gurpreet Singh Dhaliwal**

yasin · 7 June 2026

The family of Gurpreet Singh Dhaliwal announce with profound sorrow his sudden passing on 22 April 2025, aged 55. Waheguru Ji Ka Khalsa, Waheguru Ji Ki Fateh. The Antam Ardas and Antam Sanskar will take place at Sri Guru Singh Sabha Gurdwara, Walsall. The Akhand Path will begin on Thursday. All are welcome.

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## EVENT

### Antam Ardas & Antam Sanskar

yasin · 7 June 2026

**When:** 26 April 2025, 9:00am — 26 April 2025, 1:00pm

**Where:** Sri Guru Singh Sabha Gurdwara, Littleton Street West, Walsall, WS2 8ES

The Antam Ardas (final prayer) and funeral ceremony for Gurpreet Singh Dhaliwal will take place at the Gurdwara, followed by the procession to the crematorium. The sangat are welcome throughout. The Akhand Path begins on Thursday 24 April and Bhog (completion) is on Saturday.



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## EULOGY

### **From Harpreet**

Harpreet Kaur · 7 June 2026

I have been trying to work out what to say and I keep coming back to the same things, which are the ordinary ones. The way he made tea in the morning and brought mine before his own. The way he watched the girls at their music lessons with an expression of absolute, unironic pride that he made no attempt to conceal. The way he stood in the Gurdwara kitchen and stirred dal for three hours and called it a privilege.

He was not complicated. He would have found that description funny. He knew what he believed and he lived accordingly, and he did not see any particular virtue in this because he thought it was simply what you did if you paid attention. He was more devout than he was vocal about it, which is the right way round.

He was my best friend for twenty-eight years. I have no way to express what that means and no intention of trying. The girls will tell you who he was. They are like him in all the ways that matter.

Waheguru Ji Ka Khalsa, Waheguru Ji Ki Fateh.

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## MEMORY

### The Langar Kitchen

Harpreet Kaur · 7 June 2026

He ran the langar kitchen for five years and he cooked every Sunday he was not travelling for work. He was up at four to have the dal ready by seven. He never delegated the seasoning to anyone else because he had strong opinions about it and was not prepared to compromise. After the new kitchen was finished he stood in the middle of it for about five minutes and did not say anything. I knew he was very pleased. He said "well, that'll do" and then went and washed up.





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## MEMORY

### **The Infrastructure Project**

Ravi Venkataraman · 7 June 2026

I worked with Gurpreet on the Wolverhampton ring road drainage scheme in 2019 and he was the best engineer on the project – not the loudest, but the one whose assessments you could rely on. He had the quality of saying exactly as much as was needed and no more. When something was wrong he said so clearly and without drama. When something was right he said that too. It made him easy to work with and it made the project better. I did not know him well outside work but I am very glad I knew him in it.

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## MEMORY

### **He Fixed My Boiler**

Khalid Rahman · 7 June 2026

I know this is a small thing against everything else people are saying but it is the kind of thing that tells you who someone is. My boiler failed in January, the coldest week. I mentioned it at work in passing and Gurpreet drove over that evening, looked at it for twenty minutes, found the part, came back the next morning and fixed it. He refused money. He brought naan bread for my children. He said the naan was from Harpreet and the repair was from him and both were free of charge. That is who he was.

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## MEMORY

### Football on Sundays

Harpreet Kaur · 7 June 2026

Gurpreet was devoted to Wolverhampton Wanderers with a consistency and good humour that the club did not always deserve. He went to home matches for twenty years. He took Navneet for the first time when she was nine and she immediately became more interested in the pies than the football, which he found hilarious and slightly disappointing. He kept going. He watched them win the championship in 2024 on television at home, standing up for the last ten minutes, which was as demonstrative as he ever got about sport.



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## CONDOLENCE

### **From His Colleagues at West Midlands Combined Authority**

Ravi Venkataraman · 7 June 2026

Gurpreet was part of this organisation for over twenty years and he made it better. He was known for his thoroughness, his fairness, and his absolute disinclination to take short cuts regardless of pressure. He was also known for being funny at the right moments. We will miss him greatly. We extend our deepest sympathies to Harpreet and the family.

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## CONDOLENCE

### **From Sri Guru Singh Sabha Gurdwara, Walsall**

Khalid Rahman · 7 June 2026

The sangat at Sri Guru Singh Sabha mourn the loss of Gurpreet Singh Dhaliwal deeply. He served this congregation with dedication and love for many years. His langar fed thousands and his committee work laid foundations we will benefit from for a generation. May Waheguru Ji bless his soul with peace and grant strength to Harpreet, Navneet, Ravinder and Amrit in this time of sorrow. Waheguru Ji Ka Khalsa, Waheguru Ji Ki Fateh.

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## PRAYER

### **Ardas for Gurpreet**

Harpreet Kaur · 7 June 2026

Waheguru Ji Ka Khalsa, Waheguru Ji Ki Fateh. Vahiguru, we bring before you the soul of Gurpreet Singh Dhaliwal, who served the sangat, who fed the hungry, who worked with honesty, and who loved his family with his whole heart. Grant him peace at your feet. Strengthen those he has left and keep us all in your hukam. Nanak naam chardi kala, tere bhane sarbat da bhala.

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## CONDOLENCE

### **A note from someone at the Gurdwara**

7 June 2026

I am keeping my name private because I do not want attention. Every winter for the last four years Gurpreet quietly arranged for langar food to be packed and delivered to a number of elderly members of the sangat who could not come to the Gurdwara themselves. He did this without announcing it or crediting himself. I only know because I helped with the packaging once. The family should know.



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