CAPTAIN SIR TOM MOORE

(1920-2021)

EARLY LIFE

Thomas Moore was born in Keighley, in the English county of Yorkshire. He lived with his mother and father while studying at Keighley Grammar School. From an early age, Tom showed a passion for anything mechanical. At 12 years old, he bought a broken motorcycle in a barn for two shillings and was determined to fix it. After he had learned to ride, Tom began to race competitively.

MILITARY SERVICE

During World War II, Tom was called to serve in the Duke of Wellington's regiment. He had been working as an apprentice engineer at the time but had to leave his family and his job behind to serve his country. Tom travelled to Mumbai, Kolkata and Myanmar and was promoted to from lieutenant to captain whilst he was a part of the British army. After surviving Dengue Fever (a disease carried by mosquitoes), Captain Moore returned to the UK in February 1945. He trained to become a tank instructor and shortly after began organising the annual reunion for 9th Battalion veteran soldiers.

Moore married and had two children.

100TH BIRTHDAY WALK

Throughout his life, Tom had always been a very active person even in old age. At the age of 90, he slipped during his daily walk and required hospital care. When he was finally well enough to leave, Tom revealed to his family how eternally grateful he was to the NHS staff who had helped him recover. He said of them, *"You are all entering into something where you are putting yourself in danger and you're doing that for the good of the people here. You are doing a marvellous, marvellous job."*

When Tom's granddaughter later found a treadmill had been delivered to his driveway, she knew he was determined to do something special and felt incredibly proud. As his 100th birthday approached, Captain Tom challenged himself to walk 100 laps of his garden in celebration. He had just started when the COVID-19 pandemic began. Initially, Tom planned to walk 50 metres at a time and hoped to raise £1000 for the NHS.

When his story was picked up by the newspapers, Tom inspired people all over the world. He became a national hero and national treasure, and he was knighted by the Queen for his remarkable efforts. Although Captain Tom Moore sadly passed away in early 2021, his legacy lives on and the total amount raised in his name so far is £38.9 million (including gift aid).

FIND OUT MORE

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=INggiI7v0tE

EXAMPLE QUESTIONS:

1. When was Tom Moore born?
2. What hobby did Tom enjoy as a young boy?
3. Why was Captain Tom Moore admitted to hospital?
4. How far was Captain Tom Moore planning to walk at a time?
5. As of 2021, how much money has been raised in Captain Tom Moore's name?