

Soccer star waits in line for 13 hours to pay respects to Queen Elizabeth

19th September, 2022



David Beckham, the former captain of England's national football team, waited in line for over 13 hours on Friday to pay his respects to Queen Elizabeth II. While other celebrities jumped the queue with VIP passes, soccer legend Beckham wanted to share the experience with "ordinary" people. TV

footage shows him appearing to wipe away tears as he filed past the coffin at Westminster Hall. Queen Elizabeth II died on September the 8th at the age of 96. Her body is currently lying in state for four-and-a-half days so that mourners can pay their respects. Many people were delighted that Beckham was in the queue with them. The football star told reporters: "It's a day for us to remember the incredible legacy that she's left."

Mr Beckham met the Queen several times during her reign. She presented him with an honour at Buckingham Palace in 2003 for his services to football. Beckham joined the seven-kilometer-long queue at 2am on Friday. He said: "I thought 2am was going to be a little bit quieter. I was wrong." He described himself as a royalist and a "huge fan" of the royal family. After the Queen passed away, he wrote on Instagram: "How devastated we all feel today shows what she meant to people in this country....How much she inspired us with her leadership. How she comforted us when times were tough." Around 750,000 people are expected to file past the Queen's coffin before her funeral on Monday.

Sources: [bbc.com](https://www.bbc.com) / [townandcountrymag.com](https://www.townandcountrymag.com) / [reuters.com](https://www.reuters.com)

Writing

A monarchy is a great thing for a country. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

captain / national / football / team / pay respects / celebrity / tears / coffin / legacy / honour / Buckingham Palace / queue / royalist / royal family / leadership / funeral

True / False

- 1) David Beckham is the captain of England's national soccer team. T / F
- 2) David Beckham used his VIP pass to get ahead in the queue. T / F
- 3) Pictures appeared to show Mr Beckham with tears in his eyes. T / F
- 4) Beckham said the Queen left an incredible legacy. T / F
- 5) Mr Beckham had never met the Queen. T / F
- 6) Beckham joined the queue after lunchtime on Tuesday. T / F
- 7) Beckham said the people perspired because of the Queen's leadership. T / F
- 8) Three-quarters of a million people are expected to see the coffin. T / F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| 1. former | a. amazing |
| 2. waited in line | b. walked |
| 3. jumped | c. forecast |
| 4. filed | d. devotee |
| 5. incredible | e. queued |
| 6. reign | f. shocked |
| 7. fan | g. skipped |
| 8. devastated | h. energized |
| 9. inspired | i. ex- |
| 10. expected | j. rule |

Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you think about Queen Elizabeth II?
- b) What have you seen on the news about Queen Elizabeth's death?
- c) What would you wait in line for 13 hours for?
- d) What's the best way to pay respects to the recently deceased?
- e) What do you think of your nation's head of state?
- f) What happens in your country at times of national mourning?
- g) What do you think of the UK's royal family?
- h) What advice do you have for the UK's new king, Charles III?

Phrase Match

- waited in line
- other celebrities jumped
- TV footage shows him appearing
- Her body is currently
- remember the incredible
- She presented
- a royalist and a "huge fan"
- she inspired us
- she comforted us when
- file past the Queen's coffin
- lying in state
- of the royal family
- legacy that she's left
- times were tough
- before her funeral
- with her leadership
- the queue
- for over 13 hours
- him with an honour
- to wipe away tears

Discussion – Student B

- What do you think about what you read?
- What do you know about David Beckham?
- What do you think of Beckham not opting for a VIP pass?
- Who is the most famous person you've seen or met?
- What do you think Queen Elizabeth II meant to people in the UK?
- What will the Queen's legacy be?
- What three adjectives best describe Queen Elizabeth II?
- What questions would you like to ask David Beckham?

Spelling

- other ritcbeelsei
- jumped the qeeuu with VIP passes
- soccer egnled Beckham
- TV eaootfg
- enmrrous can pay their respects
- the incredible lcegya that she's left
- several times during her giner
- He described himself as a rayiolst
- How eadetstvad we all feel today
- she srieidpn us with her leadership
- expected to file past the Queen's fiocnf
- before her aenfulr on Monday

Answers – Synonym Match

1. i	2. e	3. g	4. b	5. a
6. j	7. d	8. f	9. h	10. c

Role Play

Role A – A Monarch

You think a monarch is the person who deserves the most respect. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their people do not deserve as much respect. Also, tell the others which is the least deserving of these (and why): a teacher, a soldier or your best friend.

Role B – A Teacher

You think a teacher is the person who deserves the most respect. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their people do not deserve as much respect. Also, tell the others which is the least deserving of these (and why): a monarch, a soldier or your best friend.

Role C – A Soldier

You think a soldier is the person who deserves the most respect. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their people do not deserve as much respect. Also, tell the others which is the least deserving of these (and why): a teacher, a monarch or your best friend.

Role D – Your Best Friend

You think your best friend is the person who deserves the most respect. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their people do not deserve as much respect. Also, tell the others which is the least deserving of these (and why): a teacher, a soldier or a monarch.

Speaking – Respect

Rank these with your partner. Put the people who deserve the most respect at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- A monarch
- A teacher
- A soldier
- A police officer
- Your best friend
- A nurse
- A voluntary worker
- A business leader

Answers – True False

1 F	2 F	3 T	4 T	5 F	6 F	7 F	8 T
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.