



Gary Lloyd Miller

May 4, 2011

Gary Lloyd Miller, 65, of Cape Girardeau, MO, formerly of Cedar Falls, IA, died suddenly May 4 on his way to choir practice. He was born Oct. 25, 1945 in Topeka, KS, son of Lloyd W. "Bing" and Neva E. Miller. He married Mary Van Hoet in 1979 in Ann Arbor, Michigan where he received his doctorate of music degree at the University of Michigan. Dr. Miller graduated from Cedar Falls High School in 1963 and the University of Northern Iowa in 1967. After earning his master's degree in music at Michigan he served in the U.S. Navy music program from 1969 until 1973, deploying to Europe aboard vessels including the aircraft carrier JFK. Following military service he earned the Artist's Diploma from the Staatliche Hochschule fuer Musik in Cologne, Germany. For the past 31 years Dr. Miller has been a member of the music faculty at Southeast Missouri State University. He was a teacher, professor, performer and mentor to countless students. At the time of his death he was associated dean and director of Southeast Missouri State University River Campus as well as music director, organist and member at First Presbyterian Church in Cape Girardeau. He was a lifetime member of Amvets Post 49 in Cedar Falls, IA. In addition to wife Mary he is survived by four sons: Kirk, Kyle, Erik and Alex of Cape Girardeau; and a sister, Monica Miller Murphy (Steve) of Minneapolis. He was preceded in death by parents. A memorial service will be held Saturday, October 15, 2011 at 10:00am at the First Presbyterian Church in Cape Girardeau. A reception will follow in the church fellowship hall. Memorials may be directed to the music fund at First Presbyterian Church

or the Southeast University Foundation Memorial Fund in Gary Miller's name, both in Cape Girardeau, MO 63701. Condolences may be left at *www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com.

Tribute Wall

AD

“ To say that Dr. Miller was one of the most consummate musicians I have ever known would be an understatement. To say that Dr. Miller was one of the nicest and most genuine people I've ever known would also be an understatement. I can't encapsulate that which was Gary Miller, and I don't think anyone ever could, either as a person or as a musician. I learned SO much about music and music theory that just can't even be put into words. I remember he and I having quite a few conversations about Motown, Aretha Franklin and funk music! I look back on those times with a smile on my face, now and until the day I die. To say that music was Dr. Miller and vice versa is like saying the sun is essential for life on Earth. Mary, Kirk, Kyle, Erik and Alex, please know that I have been thinking about you this whole time and sending nothing but great, loving thoughts your way. And the next time there's a thunderstorm in the Cape area, don't be scared. Just know that Dr. Miller and J.S. Bach decided to battle it out on the organ!!

Augustus Davis - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CN

“ To Mary and the boys, Next to PT, Dr. Miller was one of the most inspirational teachers I ever had. Always had an encouraging word, whether it was in theory class or in orchestra when I sat next to him as he played oboe. When he was in munny band too we always shared a belly laugh or two even though we always tried to be the consummate professional. :P Mary, did you know that he was the one who got me an interview at KRCU for that job as a student announcer?? If it wasn't for him, I would not be working at Kansas Public Radio today. Much love to you all...such a great service on Saturday. Very fitting and proper. Christina Marie. :)

Christina Van Nostrand - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RZ

“ We will always remember Dr. Miller with fondness and great respect. He brought joy to us when he played for our wedding on 12-13-86 and then many times over as we enjoyed his organ recitals over the years and company during our time at Southeast (2001-2003). I once asked him who his favorite organist was. He quickly and without hesitation replied, "My wife! I love to hear her play!" A great man and a great talent. He will be missed and forever treasured. With sympathy, Rhonda and Alan Zacharias

Rhonda and Alan Zacharias - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

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Rhonda and Alan Zacharias - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SH

“ Mrs Miller, I am thinking of you and your family. Tom Lowery told me the news. Dr Miller was an amazing teacher, friend and mentor, and his spirit and zest remains one of his best virtues. My deepest condolences and prayers are with you and your family.

Susan Ho - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

BU

“*Mary, I always looked forward to Gary popping in at Abbey Road Christian Church to practice something on the piano, although he hasn't been there for awhile. He told me once, "If this piano is ever missing, it's probably at my house." My thoughts and prayers are with you and your boys.*

Barbara Underwood - May 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM