



Myrenna Ann Kickasola

December 11, 1941 - February 5, 2023

Myrenna Ann (Moore) Kickasola entered into the eternal joy of her Savior on Sunday, February 5, 2023, after a long battle with scleroderma.

She was born December 11, 1941 in Pawtucket, Rhode Island, to Rev. Robert G. Moore and his wife Grace (McCallum). She joined her older brother Bobby in a family of modest means and enormous faith. Throughout her childhood in Bridgeport, Connecticut, where she grew up, her significant musical gifts became apparent, as she learned to play the piano at a very young age. She accompanied her father's church services, and literally thousands of services after. She never accepted any payment for a church service throughout her life, believing it was her tithe to the Lord for the gifts He had given her.

While studying music at Houghton College (from which she graduated magna cum laude in 1963), she met Joseph Kickasola. The two were married, and both embarked upon graduate level education in the Philadelphia area, he at Westminster Seminary and she at the University of Pennsylvania. There, while achieving her M.A. degree in musicology, she discovered her passion for music education. After moving to the Boston area, where her husband pursued his Ph.D. at Brandeis University, she taught music in various schools, as she would in several places throughout her life, and she eventually became a nationally renowned and much sought-after piano teacher.

Joe and Myrenna had three children: Joseph, Martha (Rusten), and Matthew. They lived in Ashland, Ohio from 1971 to 1985, and Virginia Beach, Virginia from 1985 until 2021.

During her time in Virginia, while her husband taught at Regent University, Myrenna actively served multiple churches in the Tidewater area, including New Covenant Presbyterian, New Life Presbyterian, Westminster Presbyterian, and Calvary Presbyterian. She was well known in the Tidewater music community as an active member and officer in both the Tidewater Music Teachers Forum and the Virginia Music Teachers Association. She was granted "Permanent Certification" by the National Music Teachers Association in 2018, based on her vaunted reputation and years of service to countless musicians over the years.

In 2021 they moved to Cape Girardeau, Missouri, to be near Martha and join the delightful community at Chateau Girardeau. Myrenna spoke often of her many new friends there, and delighted herself and others at the grand piano in the community room. She also found great friendship, meaning, and encouragement in the senior adult Sunday school class at Cape Bible Chapel.

She fiercely loved (and is survived by) her husband, each of her children, and her six grandchildren: Bronwyn and Matteo (from Joe and Linnea Leonard), Jackson and Henry (from Martha and Mark Rusten), and Andrew and Micah (from Matthew and Erin Farquhar). She was preceded in death by her mother, father, and brother.

Despite battling many health issues throughout the last few decades of her life, Myrenna was known to all as an unfailingly cheerful and kind soul. She credited her faith for her resilience, as articulated in her favorite Scripture verse, Deuteronomy 31:8:

"It is the LORD who goes before you; he will be with you and will never fail you or forsake you. So do not fear or be dismayed."

In lieu of flowers, donations in Myrenna's honor may be sent to Covenant College (Lookout Mountain, Georgia, where all her children attended), Calvary Presbyterian Church (Norfolk, Virginia), and the Chateau Employee Christmas Fund at Chateau Girardeau.

Visitation will be 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm Tuesday, February 21, 2023 at Ford & Sons Mt. Auburn Chapel in Cape Girardeau.

Funeral service will follow at 1:00 pm at the funeral home.

Burial will be at Cape County Memorial Park Cemetery in Cape Girardeau.

Online condolences may be made at www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com

Guests may watch the funeral service live via Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82705357616?pwd=OUFCZmo5WGhZWetwd2hKdkZORTVTUT09>
Passcode: 185573

Cemetery Details

Cape County Memorial Park Cemetery

2315 Highway 61 North
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701
(573) 334-1909
<https://www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com/>

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 21. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Ford and Sons Mt. Auburn Chapel
1001 N. Mt. Auburn Rd.
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Funeral Service

FEB 21. 1:00 PM (CT)

Ford and Sons Mt. Auburn Chapel
1001 N. Mt. Auburn Rd.
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Tribute Wall

RP

“ This is Ruth Gluhareff Pianalto. As a child and until high school graduation my and my family attended Berean Christian Missionary Alliance church in Bridgeport Conn. Myrenna was a year older than me and my friend. Often I would stay after Sunday church for Dinner with the Moores (her Dad was pastor) and spend the afternoon with Myrenna. She was a beauty inside and out and a true witness for the Lord. I so looked up to her. We lost track all these years but today I felt the need to search for her obit. Finding a Myrenna Moore, I was not sure until I read down and saw mention of her awesome piano playing skills. I knew I had found her! I lived and still do, widowed in NW AR just over the border where Myrenna, I saw spent her last years in Missouri. How close, but Myrenna was always in my heart. ❤️🙏❤️

ruth gluhareff pianalto - July 26, 2025 at 07:16 AM

SA

“ Myrenna was a member of the Tidewater Music Teachers Forum in Virginia for many years. It would be hard to find another member who contributed as much as she did. She was kind, encouraging, and always helpful to new and old members alike. She was a wonderful teacher who shared her knowledge of all things piano with us. We miss her terribly.

Susan Atkins - March 28, 2023 at 02:47 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Myrenna Ann Kickasola.*



February 20, 2023 at 06:55 PM



“ *Martha, I'm sorry I won't be able to come to visitation. Please know my heart and prayers are with you and your sweet family.* 🙏❤️

tracy blattner - February 20, 2023 at 06:07 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Myrenna Ann Kickasola.*



February 18, 2023 at 09:15 PM



“ *Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Myrenna Ann Kickasola.*



February 18, 2023 at 08:59 PM

BM

“ *Martha I am so sorry for you and your family's loss I loved taking care of your parents while i worked at the chateau...your mother was the sweetest ever she will be missed*

billy martin - February 18, 2023 at 06:51 PM

PR

“ *Myrenna will always be a sweet memory to me during her time at Calvary Presbyterian Church in Norfolk, Virginia. She not only blessed us with her beautiful piano playing but also her quiet and gentle spirit. I was able to witness her steadfastness and trust in the Lord for her every need the midst of the storm. While wrapping things up for her big move, she never waivered in knowing the Lord would provide and meet her every need. I am so thankful that our paths crossed and the blessing she was and will always remain in my heart. My condolences to the family. May the Lord comfort you and give you peace.*

Page Roest - February 17, 2023 at 08:42 AM

BE

“ *We enjoyed Mrs. Kickasola's visits at the bookstore- her love and pride of her family was obvious during our chats. I don't think there was an Anne Perry book she hadn't read! :) Sending our condolences to you all, The Book Rack Crew*

Becky - February 16, 2023 at 12:33 AM



“ *Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of Myrenna Ann Kickasola.*



February 15, 2023 at 03:52 PM

AP

“*Myrenna was a musical treasure sent by God to the Chateau. My goodness, we could not have had a program with music in it if it weren't for Myrenna. She not only accompanied us as we sang, but she gave a prelude and a postlude. She lightened ever program a variety of songs from light to serious. Every action, thought, word and deed were filled with love and kindness. Everyone who knew her knew of her deep commitment to her faith. What a talent! May she rest in peace! She has left her mark on us all.*

Adelaide Heyde Parsons - February 14, 2023 at 11:53 PM

SG

“*I first met Myrenna at Westminster Presbyterian Church where she played and accompanied the choir. Such a gifted musician and also such a godly woman. She also introduced me to our local music teachers association where she was indispensable ~a mentor, teacher, gifted pianist, always available with a servant's heart and a loving spirit. I know she was greeted at the Pearly Gates with "Well done, good and faithful servant." Missing her but rejoicing that she is resting in the loving arms of her Savior!*

Susan Grice - February 14, 2023 at 10:14 PM

BA

“*I knew Myrenna through the Tidewater Music Teachers Forum. What a kind and giving soul. She was always available, as an extraordinarily talented piano teacher, to lead, offer advice, or help out. Her knowledge of piano repertoire was unmatched. I was sad when she moved away from Southeastern Virginia. Rest in peace, Myrenna. You made a difference.*

BJ Atkinson - February 14, 2023 at 01:50 PM

TF

I was sad to hear of Myrenna's passing! She was one of the most Godly woman I've ever known!! She was generous with everyone, available to talk, having a listening ear and heart, quick to encourage with a prayer, advice, and sharing stories with her quiet humor! Her depth of knowledge concerning music was limitless and inspiring! Her friendship with another stellar, also deceased musician and author, teacher, fabulous clinician, Suzanne Guy was a model to all! I know she is with her loving Savior, Jesus, who loved without equal! Thank you for our wonderful Myrenna.. we were blessed!❤️Teri Falk

Trri Falk - February 14, 2023 at 02:35 PM

KS

“ Mrs. Kickasola helped out with kids choir and the musicals at my church in Ashland, Ohio when I was a little girl. I have GREAT memories of those musicals (Down by the Creek Bank, Antsylvania, etc) and have told my own three kids all about them. I remember Mrs. Kickasola's energy and pep but most of all I remember her love for Jesus and for children! I'm so grateful for her legacy. May God comfort all of you in her loss while reminding her of the HOPE you have to see her again some day!

Kelly (Daugherty) Studley - February 14, 2023 at 01:36 PM

DH

“ Myrenna was a dear sister in Christ and a mentor and blessing to me personally in the Tidewaters Music Teachers Forum for over 30 years. I have missed her terribly since she moved but I know we'll meet again because of the promises of God (John 14:1-3).

Donna Halleck - February 14, 2023 at 01:01 AM

BW

“ I got to know Myrenna through Tidewater Music Teachers Association. I enjoyed many conversations we had about music and sharing about students that we had. She was a delightful person.
Bonnie Western

Bonnie Western - February 14, 2023 at 12:02 AM

MR

“ I met Myrenna at Chateau several months ago and enjoyed seeing her almost daily. What a beautiful child of God she was! Rest In Peace, sweet lady!

Mona Rae - February 13, 2023 at 03:19 PM