

## Linda S. Masterson

**CENTERVILLE** - A celebration of the life of Linda Sutherland Masterson will be held at the Federated Church of Hyannis on Saturday, March 5, 2022 at 11:00 AM, with masks required. Linda passed away peacefully in Centerville, MA, on February 27, 2022, from complications of diabetes, attended by Bill (her beloved husband of more than 61 years) and their children. She survived to a much older age than her parents and sibling. Burial will be private.



She was born on July 12, 1940, in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, to Isobel and Doug Sutherland. After the war, Doug found employment in Pittsburgh, PA, and Linda immigrated to the USA in 1950 with her parents and sister. She became a naturalized citizen of the USA. Even as a teenager, she developed interests that stayed with her the rest of her life, in the areas of spirituality, building a loving family, and music, in many forms. She was precocious, passionate, compassionate, and triple-vaccinated against COVID-19.

She graduated at 16 from Mount Lebanon High School in Pennsylvania. At 20, she was TEACHING Home Economics at East Windsor High School in Connecticut, having earned a degree from Ohio Wesleyan University. At 23, she had graduated with a Master's Degree in Home Economics Education from the University of Connecticut, while keeping house and raising two children.

In 1960, she married the love of her life, Bill Masterson, in Mount Lebanon, and moved to Bloomfield, Connecticut, where Bill worked as an actuary for Connecticut General Life Insurance Company (now CIGNA).

She is survived by Bill and their three children (Laurie, and husband Ramon Cevallos, of Woodstock, GA; Michael, and wife Kim Masterson of Littleton, CO; and Melanie, and husband Jose' Tillan of Coconut Grove, FL). Her surviving grandchildren are Michael Masterson, Jr., and partner Lindsey Keefer of Littleton, CO; Ben Masterson, and wife Rosemary, of Arvada, CO; and Nikko Tillan, of Coconut Grove, FL. Her surviving great-grandchild is Oliver Masterson of Arvada, CO.

Ever since junior high school, Linda developed a deep faith in God, and worshipped in several Protestant churches throughout her life. After retiring from her work as a high school teacher and moving to Cape Cod, MA, she joined the Federated Church of Hyannis, where she sang in the choir and supported the church in many ways.

Her family formed some strong bonds while traveling for summer vaca-

tions, and all three children acquired Linda's love of traveling, and visiting other countries.

Although her work life involved teaching home-making, cooking, sewing, and gerontology, her passion for music in many of its forms influenced her free time throughout her life, whether it was singing in the Triple Trio in school, playing the piano for the dance band, playing drums with the high school marching band, singing with Sweet Adelines choruses, writing music, arranging music, or judging singing competitions at home and abroad. She studied the craft of arranging music, worked with her mentor Sharon Holmes, and became a Certified Music Arranger. She studied the craft of judging Sweet Adelines (4-part female barbershop harmony restricted to 11 chords) singing competitions, and became a Certified Music Judge. This led to traveling to and judging singing competitions all over the US and Canada, and to Sweden, England, Australia, and New Zealand. She and Bill had a full life, and often were able to tack on to those music trips chances to visit their children and grandchildren in Colorado, Florida, and Georgia.

She also put her faith into practice with volunteer work, where she was trained as a Hospice Volunteer, working with Hospice patients and their bereaved families in their homes, and at McCarthy Care Center on Cape Cod. She put her musical talents to work at Hospice, also, writing some music, and playing the piano to entertain the residents and staff at McCarthy.

Her singing led her to some other opportunities, including stints singing for the Barbersharpes, Chatham Chorale, Noteables, Pilgrim Pops, Pleasant Bay Cammerata, and Cranberry Shores Chorus of Sweet Adelines International. She collected musical friends all along the way over the past 55 years of singing.

After all those years of marriage to Bill, there was nothing she liked better than to sit on the deck overlooking Lake Wequaquet with her coffee cup, surrounded by visiting progeny. She was justly proud of the accomplishments of her children and their spouses, and she could carry on at length on these subjects, if given half a chance.

We are thankful for and wish to recognize the superb efforts by Broad Reach Hospice and Harbor Point at Centerville Assisted Living over the past 5 months. Linda was well-cared for by Karen and Cindy and the team at Broad Reach, and by Sandy, Tina, Tami, Patricia and the team at Harbor Point.

In lieu of flowers, Linda would appreciate a donation in her memory to Ohio Wesleyan University, or to the Federated Church of Hyannis, 320 Main Street, Hyannis, MA 02601.