



Suzanne de Clercq

April 2, 1943 - April 14, 2018

Suzanne de Clercq, Naples, Florida.

Suzanne de Clercq passed on April 12th, 2018. She was born in Westminster, MD, to parents Alfred and Ethel De Long. She graduated from Wheaton College with majors in music and French. Suzanne had a dynamic musical career as a vocalist and flutist. She declined an offer from the Paris Opera after they heard her sing at the Orford music festival in Canada. She toured Europe with The Tudor Singers and won first place in the Bach Music Festival in Strasbourg in 1979. She spent many years as the president of The Naples Music Club and had a long career teaching voice, flute and piano.

She is survived by her son Trevor de Clercq and daughter-in-law Sarah Carolan of Murfreesboro, TN, and Oliver de Clercq of Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, and her grandchildren Hazel, Eliza, and Ethan.

She is preceded in death by her brother Owen De Long.

Celebration of Suzanne's life will be held with immediate family. Memorial donations in memory of Suzanne may be made to The Naples Music Club Scholarship program, either by mail: Naples Music Club, P.O. Box 112383, Naples, Fl. 34108, or on line at

Tribute Wall



“ *Suzanne de Clercq*

October 09, 2023 at 02:01 AM



“ *Suzanne de Clercq*

January 28, 2023 at 12:09 PM

“ Ms. De Clercq was my piano teacher since I was in first grade all the way until I was a senior in high school at Naples High. I am just getting ready to graduate from graduate school and I was looking up her address to send her an announcement when I saw she had passed away. I was shaken up and greatly saddened to hear of the loss of such an amazing and intelligent, humble and upstanding woman. I had been wanting to reconnect with her so often in the last couple of years and tell her how much of an influence she had on my life and who I am and how fortunate I was to have her as my teacher and friend. I am sorry I didn't reach out sooner. Ms. De Clercq was an incredibly influential part of my life in so many ways. Not only was she my piano teacher but she was also my friend, a confidant, a mentor, a mother figure, and a passionate soul.

She taught me the solid foundations of music theory and piano ever since I started lessons with her at a young age, and she helped to instill confidence in my ability as a piano player and musician. She empowered her students no matter how young they were, and one of the greatest gifts she shared was treating me so elegantly like an adult even as a young student. She treated me as a capable, emotionally and mentally mature individual regardless of my age, and I felt like I connected with her as my teacher so much better because of that. She also shared a great level of encouragement and graceful teaching skills to help me learn music that I would have initially thought was too complex for me to play. She had that ability to push her students and help them excel to levels they might not think they could reach. She loved that I also played French horn in marching and symphonic band as her son Oliver did, and she was always so proud of the outstanding professional horn player and musician he was. She also spoke so highly of her son Trevor and his musical theory accomplishments. I felt like I knew Suzanne's family in many ways as she always was so incredibly proud and beaming when talking of her sons' accomplishments and their successes and the men they were. She shared so much about them and couldn't have been a more proud mom to her sons. I felt very lucky to see how much she cherished her sons in her life and to

share in hearing about their amazing accomplishments and love for music as music was also so special to her heart.

I am sending my condolences and love to the family of Ms. De Clercq. Please know she will be greatly missed and she shaped my life and the lives of so many other students in tremendous ways. I always think of her when I sit down and play piano or try to learn a new instrument. I feel so grateful for her instruction, patience, friendship, mentor ship, and the opportunity to have learned my first instrument, my favorite instrument, under such a skilled and exceptional piano player, teacher, and woman.

Sending you love Ms. De Clercq, I know you are smiling and looking as graceful and elegant and radiant as ever playing your favorite piano.

Kinsley McEachern - April 25, 2018 at 09:08 PM

JG

“*Dear Trevor, Oliver & Ted,
I'm so sorry to hear about Suzanne. She was my neighbor and a friend for over 20 years. I will miss her terribly. My thoughts & prayers goes out to you and I pray to God that he will give you all the strength to get through this difficult time. God Bless you!*

Judi Gregoire

Judi Gregoire - April 18, 2018 at 10:44 AM