

2021

Marilyn Ann Harrison (previously Maginley, nee Hill), born in Sydney, Nova Scotia, peacefully passed away at the Parkland Shannex in Antigonish surrounded by her loving family on Saturday, July 24, 2021.

She was predeceased by her brothers, Bill and Brian Hill; her first former husband and our father, Charles Douglas Maginley; and her second former husband, Robin Harrison. She is survived by her brother, Greg (Betty) Hill; five children, Rachel, Rob (Valerie), David (Erika), Christopher and Amanda Maginley; her five grandchildren, Suzanne, Ryan, Derek, Megan and Emma, as well as numerous extended family members. She was a Piano Teacher, Producer, and had her ATCL (Trinity College of Music) 1969, and LTCL (Trinity) 1975. Raised in Nova Scotia, she traveled the world and lived in many places. She married the first time in 1957 and again in 1978. She taught piano privately for many years in Sydney, Halifax, Victoria and Saskatoon. There she produced and directed for the Saskatoon Opera Association, and was a founder and its general manager from 1978-94. She also adjudicated at music festivals across Canada and gave workshops.

The book Piano Pedagogy and Performance Principles, which she edited, was published in 1992. Retiring to Margaree, Cape Breton in 1994, Marilyn continued to teach privately and to adjudicate as well as run the Harrison Hill Bed and Breakfast. She founded a community based theatre group and also restarted the Margaree Area Development Association (MADA). She was a music and drama critic for the CBC and various newspapers, and a board member of Theatre Nova Scotia and the University College of Cape Breton. Marilyn received the Lescaobot Award for Cultural Contributions in Music and Drama, and the Saskatoon Rotary Award for Education in the Arts. Her contribution to the music and theater world is immeasurable.

Mom was a vibrant, adventurous, loving and engaging person. She was also an incredible mother, supporting her children's endeavours whatever they may be. We loved her dearly, as did many people across Canada. She loved to travel and knew all sorts of musical history. One was always welcomed in her home, and you were likely fed and told amazing stories that kept you entertained and laughing for hours. Her beautiful smile, sense of humour and sound of her laugh will remain in our memories. You are so much a part of who we are and we will do our best to serve others in the essence of love, kindness and humour to honour your legacy. Tiamo Momma! We miss and love you deeply. Enjoy the afterlife...word is there is a lot of music!

A heartfelt thank you to the Sisters and staff, particularly in Mary's Court, at the Parkland Shannex, Antigonish for their extraordinary care of Mom. She loved you too! Funeral arrangements by the Sunset Funeral home and service to be held at Calvin United Church TBA. Donations appreciated to L'arche Art House, Antigonish or to the Nova Scotia Music Teachers Association. Online condolences: www.sunsetfuneralco-op.com.