



Jane Miller Bartlett

February 7, 2020

“Jonquil hair, Periwinkle eyes- chronic good nature – pink and gold and musical disposition like champagne – the bright smile – serious only about her piano and then she’s amazing.”

Jane M. Bartlett, only child of Lillian Jane (Best) Miller and Robert Walter Miller, passed away peacefully at home on February 7, 2020. The widow of Harry O. Bartlett since 2009, she had been his “Wellesley Special” for 61 years, while he was the “wind beneath my sails”.

Born in Brooklyn, N.Y., Jane was a product of Long Island schools, graduating from the Episcopal Cathedral School of St. Mary (Garden City) in 1943. A lifelong pianist, she also attended the Julliard School of Music in Manhattan from 1939-1943. She graduated from Wellesley College in 1947 as a music major and college soloist. She continued her piano study with Ward Davenny and Raymond Hanson in Hartford.

“Janie met Harry” when he returned to the Harvard Business School after WWII. They married in 1947 in Garden City and moved to West Hartford where Harry joined the Connecticut General Life Insurance Company and Janie became music instructor at the Oxford School. Later, Janie taught piano for 30 years in her home studio where her cats, dogs and M&M’s awaited the pupils.

In school musicals, Janie often took leading roles on stage. She composed the music for the Wellesley Junior Show and sang a memorable rendition of “I Enjoy Being A Girl” in the Harford Junior League Follies at the Bushnell.

Janie was a popular member of the Wellesley Club of Hartford (President), the Junior League of Hartford, Red Oak Hill Swim Club, the Bridge Club, Seedling Garden Club, The Town and County Club (47 years) and St. James's and St. John's Episcopal Churches. Her most concentrated efforts went into The Musical Club of Hartford as soloist, duo-pianist, chamber player accompanist, historian, president and member since 1950.

Janie and Harry traveled widely, never more happily than with their grandchildren, whose lives they actively supported in every phase. Home was Janie's favorite gathering place and she made it an oasis for young and old alike.

Janie is survived by her precious sons and their families: Richard (Wendy) of West Hartford; Douglas (Jacquelyn) of San Francisco; Rich's daughter, Garland; Doug's sons Harrison and Riley (Saskia) and his shared children, Gabriel (Tonya) and Moriah.

If desired, memorial gifts for Jane can be made out to The Musical Club of Hartford c/o Michelle Duffy, 22 Kirkwood Rd., West Hartford, CT 06117. A Memorial Service will be held on Wednesday, March 11, 2020 at 11:00 a.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church, 679 Farmington Ave., West Hartford. A reception will follow at the church. Taylor & Modeen Funeral Home, West Hartford, has care of arrangements. For online condolences please visit www.taylorandmodeen.com