



Mrs. Judith Glynn Sowell

May 7, 1939 - April 29, 2023

Judith Glynn Sowell passed away on the evening of April 29th, 2023, just short of her eighty-fourth birthday. Judy (née Glynn) was born in Kingsport, Tennessee, daughter of Theodore William Glynn, Jr, a research and development engineer and Elizabeth Paget Glynn, a child psychologist and school teacher. Judy was a 1961 graduate of Hollins University majoring in music and piano and recipient of the Bentley Nicholson Prize for Music. She then studied at the Peabody Conservatory toward her Masters of Music for piano before raising a family. Returning to her love for music, she taught piano at The Bryn Mawr School for twenty-eight years from 1979 to 2007. Judy was an avid literature student and reader and was a particularly keen fan of anything Charles Dickens. She and David Sowell, her beloved husband of nearly sixty one years, delighted in taking literature and history classes and spending time with their close friends and eight grandchildren. Judy is survived by her husband David; her brother Theodore William Glynn III; her three children Paul (Gillian), Elizabeth "Ibby" (Clark) and David; and grandchildren James, Liam, and Harriet Sowell, Emily (Eric), Jake and Claire Mente, and Avery and Crosby Sowell.

Funeral and Interment are private. In lieu of flowers, please contribute in her name to the Church of the Redeemer Friends of Music, 5603 North Charles Street, Baltimore, MD 21210.

Tribute Wall

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“ Firstly, I would like to send so much love to the family. Knowing Judy and Dave means know all about the children and grandchildren. The love shared in this family is one of the things I love the most.

I met Judy at the Bryn Mawr School for Girls when I took the post of running the applied music programme almost 20 years ago. She immediately embraced me and showed me the ropes, and although she was very kind - I was also a bit afraid of her! I knew the students had a loving and formidable teacher. As we got to know each other, she showed both her kindness and tough love to me - always pushing me to be better, and to follow my path. There were so many times where I was so grateful to have her by my side, also some difficult times where we argued, and times where we laughed so hard that the tears would flood our cheeks. What I learned was that, with Judy, when she took you into her heart, you were there and loved - always.

As my life changed and I moved overseas, she let me know that no matter how far away I was, she and Dave supported me. Distance could not change the relationship. One of my favourite memories was when I moved to the UK for the second time, on my second day back in London, I got a message from Dave saying "We are here! We bought last minute tickets and came to London!". I was never so happy to see my two beloved friends. And my favourite picture is of them under a sign that says "Lovers Lane" - and the love for each other is so clear on their faces. I must admit that that knowing of "love has no distance" means more now than ever...

My sister commented the other day that although she never met Judy in person, how much a part of our lives she is. I was gifted the famous chocolate sauce recipe when I moved away from Baltimore, and my sister makes it every year. It is known as "Miss Judy's Chocolate Sauce" and will forever bear that name! Phrases such as "Y'all are going straight to hell!" and "Well...you might as well take me out back and shoot me!" (all said with her trademark drawl) are

a part of our family vernacular.

Additionally, Judy and Dave will forever be referred to as Miss Judy and the Fabulous Dave. I cannot remember how this came about, but it has stuck and reflects the grace and true Lady that was Judy, and Dave's unfailing love and support for her - especially in the last few decades with her illness.

There is so much more that I could say....but will end with the greatest gift I received from Judy (and Dave!) - is the knowing that love is everything, and it needs to be shown and shared. Judy once said to me "never leave a phone call without saying I love you to the people that mean the most - even if you are mad at them".

Whenever we were together we spoke at length about my niece and her children/grandchildren and laughed about turning into "those people" - but then decided that it was just fine to gush over those we treasured the most. She loved passionately.... and I am grateful to have been included in that group.

My Dear Miss Judy...I love you and will miss you terribly...I will read Dickens (I promise!), I will eat the chocolate sauce, and use (and polish!) the silver. I will think of you every time I see a magnolia and pink hydrangeas, a canopy of trees reaching over a road towards each other, and hear a great pianist that would have inspired you. You are one of the kindest, toughest, funniest, bravest, curious, and most stubborn people I have ever had the pleasure of knowing (my fellow Taurean!). I can hear your voice in exasperation saying "Debbie!" and also "I love you" every time we parted. Thank you.....

Fabulous Dave and Family.... I love you and you are in all my thoughts prayers.

All love,

Debbie Williams

Debbie Williams - May 04, 2023 at 06:27 AM