



JANICE THOMSON MILLS

August 19, 1957 - November 11, 2019

MILLS, Janice Thomson, 62, beloved daughter, wife, mother, grandmother, sister, teacher, and accomplished musician, passed away Monday, November 11, after a tragic fall at the University of Miami Maurice Gusman Concert Hall prior to a performance in the Greater Miami Symphonic Band. Janice had a lifelong passion for music, often performing solos on the oboe and English horn. She was born and raised in Coral Gables where she graduated from West Lab Elementary, Ponce de Leon Junior High School, and Coral Gables High School (Class of '75). She was a member of Gables High's Band of Distinction and Symphonic Band and the University of Florida's (UF) Gator Marching and Symphonic Band. She earned a BA in Design in Architecture at UF, and a master's in Education at the University of Central Missouri. At Van Horn High School in Independence, Missouri, Janice oversaw the implementation of Project Lead the Way, a national STEM education program designed to empower students in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. She then brought her great desire to teach and inspire students to Mater Academy Charter Middle-High in Hialeah Gardens where she often called the parents of students to tell them how well they did in class. She loved seeing the joy students displayed when understanding a new concept. She wanted them to believe in themselves and to consider the engineering and science fields. Janice was involved in her local Coral Gables community where she currently served on the city's Historic Preservation Board, was active in the Woman's Club, as well as the local chapter of DAR, and the Alumni Association of her sorority, Alpha Chi Omega. She was also a lifetime member of Granada Presbyterian Church where her music solos were often a highlight at holiday services. Often described as vivacious, talented, and giving, Janice lived a life of connection, often encouraging others with her warmth, ready smile, and distinctive laugh. She was active on Facebook where at the top of her page she wrote, "I want to live a beautiful purposeful life." Janice is survived by her husband, Steven Gale, her parents, former Coral Gables Mayor Dorothy Thomson and attorney Col. John Thomson, her daughter Quinn Mills, son Paul Mills and wife Alana, and their daughters, Mason, Ruby, and Nora, her siblings and their spouses and families Joanne (Bill) Talley, June (Allen) Morris, and Robert (Kimberly) Thomson. Visitation begins at 5pm on Sunday, November 17, at Granada Presbyterian Church, 950 University Drive, Coral Gables, with a memorial

service at 6 pm followed by a reception. In lieu of Flowers, the family requests donations be given to the [Tim Tebow Foundation] <https://timtebowfoundation.org/#/ZALVUMAHZE>. Anyone who knew Janice knew her great love of the Gators and for Tim Tebow, whom she admired for his strength of character and commitment to making the world a better place through faith, hope, and love.

Cemetery

Woodlawn Park North

3260 S.W. 8 Street
Miami, FL,

Events

NOV **Visitation** 05:00PM - 06:00PM

17

Granada Presbyterian Church
950 University Drive, Coral Gables, FL, US

NOV **Service** 06:00PM

17

Granada Presbyterian Church
950 University Dr, Coral Gables, FL, US, 33134

Comments



“ A tribute video has been added.



Van Orsdel Family Funeral Chapels - November 14, 2019 at 10:19 AM



“ She was amazing.

Bebe Wahlstad - November 14, 2019 at 04:26 PM



“ She was a beautiful woman

Brenda Aiken - November 14, 2019 at 08:04 PM



“ May she Rest in Peace.

Alina and Pablo Garcia

Pablo Garcia - November 14, 2019 at 08:32 PM



“ Sending my love & condolences to June and the Family. Lots of Love, Muffy and the Sottile family

Jeanne Lewis - November 15, 2019 at 06:45 PM



“ What a lovely and loyal servant of Christ. Please accept my deepest sympathy.

Clarke J. Jones, Jr. - November 17, 2019 at 12:08 AM



“ Janice was literally one of the fun ones. Prayers to the entire Thomson family. So sad!

Bebe Wahlstad - December 14, 2019 at 07:05 AM



“ To the dear Thomson family,
You have been on my mind and my heart so much and I have prayed many times for you after hearing the news of Janice's passing. It is at a time like this that God's comfort and His peace that passes all understanding point us to His promises in Christ Jesus and a hope that is solidly grounded in truth. Joe and I remember Janice well from Granada and we had the pleasure accompanied by Dorothy and Jack to attend a concert at the University of Miami to watch her perform. It was such a lovely evening. We love your family and extend our heartfelt condolences. Pat & Joe Breedon



“ My childhood friend from West Lab Elementary School. Always so dear. Such a sweet soul . Jann always would comment on facebook to posts I would post and I will surely miss her sweetness and kind comments. Love her dearly and know she will be so missed. Sending love and condolences to all of her amazing family and friends. Janice, you are so missed. YOU were and still are such an inspirational soul. Love you dearly, Debbie

Debbie Downey - November 19, 2019 at 08:50 PM



“ May you RIP my friend. You will be missed.



Daisy - November 17, 2019 at 06:02 PM



“ I only knew Janice as a musician and member of the Greater Miami Symphonic Band. When I heard her solo on “Russian Christmas” I along with others came to know her soul, it was mesmerizing and heavenly! Matter can not be destroyed, only changed and the smallest of particles make up the whole and there in lies the soul. And what a wonderful soul she has sincerely to be appreciated and missed.

Bruce Alexander - November 16, 2019 at 02:04 PM



“ May the peace of God guard you and our God of peace direct you in the coming days. I followed Janice on Facebook with much interest because your family is so special to Suzanne and me.

Danny and Suzanne Levi - November 16, 2019 at 02:03 PM



“ My condolences to the Thomson family and Steven Gale who made Janice so happy and full of life. Anyone who could get that girl on the back of a motorcycle and in a camper is a special guy. Words cannot describe the emptiness I feel knowing what a loss to her family, friends, alumni of Gables High and the Coral Gables community

will be. A beautiful, gracious, eloquent and talented person loved by so many. She will be missed by many.



Stan Schachne - November 14, 2019 at 04:48 PM

 “ 1 file added to the album LifeTributes



Stan Schachne - November 14, 2019 at 04:23 PM



“ Janice, thanks for being you.
I was fortunate to have known you. See you soon.

Ron Ruel - November 15, 2019 at 06:40 PM

 “ To my “big sister” ... I will always remember your beautiful smile and your sweet heart. I know you are playing your music in heaven ...

Gloria - November 13, 2019 at 07:10 PM

 “ Lou Evans lit a candle in memory of JANICE THOMSON MILLS



Lou Evans - November 13, 2019 at 05:34 PM



“ Janice was a wonderful friend and classmate from Coral Gables High (CGHS) who I am both blessed and honored to have known. Her spirit and spunkiness always made for fun dialogue; especially during football season. Her honesty in conversation was refreshing, and the ease by which one could make her smile and laugh (oh, that laugh!) was most heartwarming. She epitomized the spirit of her hometown, Coral Gables, and I always thought of her whenever the subject of our beloved alma mater CGHS, came up. I surely miss her, but I know that we will all reunite in the presence of our Lord, one day. Rest easy, Janice. We Cavaliers, will always love and remember you.

Lou Evans - November 13, 2019 at 05:33 PM



“ 19 files added to the album LifeTributes



Van Orsdel Family Funeral Chapels - November 13, 2019 at 02:24 PM



“ She was so beautiful! So sad for all of you. Praying for the comfort of Jesus.

debbie petersen - November 13, 2019 at 04:53 PM



“ Dorothy and Jack, I can't begin to tell you how my heart aches for you on the loss of your Janice, in such a senseless, tragic accident. Jann was a beautiful person who indeed lived a beautiful purposeful life. Her radiant smile will always be remembered when I think of her. Please know that my prayers and thoughts have been with you constantly since Monday. She had such talent and gifts, and was so giving in all aspects of her life. She will be incredibly missed, and the world a sadder place without her presence. We hold on tight to our faith during such tragic times, and I pray God grant you comfort as you go through this tragedy.
I'm just so very sorry.
Love to you both,
Sharon Watson

Sharon E Graham Watson - November 13, 2019 at 02:19 PM