



Else Shewmake

October 19, 1926 - August 12, 2013

SHEWMAKE- Else Babette Shewmake of Lawrenceville, passed away Monday, August 12, 2013. Memorial Services will be held at 3 PM, Saturday, August 17, 2013 in the Lawrenceville Chapel of Tim Stewart Funeral Home. Pastor Dale Sillik will officiate. Mrs. Shewmake is survived by Daughter and Son-in-law: Lafrida & Kurt Preston of NC; Grandchildren: Elisa McGuffey Purcell of Canada, Tyarn Preston, Lea Preston, and Hadriane Preston all of NC; Nephews: Richard Fettinger and Martin Fettinger; and a host of family and friends. In Lieu of flowers, memorials to Hope Lutheran Church: Piano Fund, 3525 Rogers Road, Wake Forest, NC 27587 or Nativity Lutheran Church: Building Fund, 799 Christmas Ave. Bethlehem, GA 30620. The Family will receive friends from 1-3 PM, Saturday August 17, 2013 at Tim Stewart Funeral Home, 300 Simonton Road, SW Lawrenceville, GA 30046. 770-962-3100. Please sign the online guest book at www.stewartfh.com

Previous Events

Service

AUG 17. 3:00 PM (ET)

Chapel of Tim Stewart Funeral Home Lawrenceville
300 Simonton Road, S.W.
Lawrenceville, GA

Tribute Wall



“ *Tim Stewart Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Else Shewmake*



Tim Stewart Funeral Home - August 12, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ *Elena Taylor lit a candle in memory of Else Shewmake*



Elena Taylor - October 03, 2023 at 10:27 PM



“ *Else Shewmake*

October 08, 2022 at 11:31 AM



“ *George and I remember Else from years of the Atlanta Saengerkris and we loved her. So sorry we could not attend her funeral.##imported-begin##Wilma Turner##imported-end##*

August 26, 2013 at 04:35 PM



“ I eventually worked my way to the last lesson of the day for her. That meant a 30 minute lesson would never happen. She gave me a lot of extra attention that I appreciated even then. As much as I disliked practicing I loved lessons. She was a tough teacher, expecting results and improvement. Every teacher I had affected me as a teacher, and I was blessed with many who didn't coddle me, who weren't afraid to push me - hard when necessary. She would stand behind me with a steel rod about a quarter inch in diameter and maybe 20" long. She used this rod to strongly tap (not quite hit LOL) the tempo on my shoulder. It was enough to know you'd better get the tempo correct and stay on it.

As lessons neared Christmas, I dreaded with good humor the return of the decorations that would include a grouping of nutcrackers that would sit to the right of the piano bench on a table next to her window. If notes were carelessly missed, the offending finger went into the nutcracker's mouth, and yes, she closed it. It wasn't hard to cause pain...just a playfully serious way of telling me I could be better.

I'll always remember her two dogs (wired haired terriers, I believe) named Siri and Piri - not sure that's spelled correctly. They would come and see you as you sat on the couch in the corner waiting for your lesson.

Even though lessons would run long, she always made time to visit with my mom. So many parents nowadays have to rush off to the next thing. My mother always patiently stayed and waited and then visited with Mrs. Shewmake. They shared a love of the outdoors and flowers/gardening. I remember many spring and summer lessons being there as the sun was casting it's final light while she proudly shared her various plantings throughout the yard. As a boy I liked trying to find the lizards in the stone work at the front of the house.

After recitals it was time to pick out the next set of music. She would go into that closet full of music - neatly organized - she knew where everything was, and she would pick out some things that I could choose from. She would play excerpts of them for me. She played beautifully and knew so much repertoire. I always remember having

input as to what I played.

She will be missed by many because she touched so many. I think everyone in my extended family including our pets took lessons from her at some point.

I will miss her, but hope I carry with me the things she taught me.##imported-begin##Alan Kirkland##imported-end##

August 21, 2013 at 05:26 AM



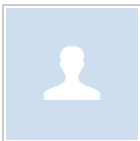
“ *Lafrida, I am so sorry for your loss. Even though I was not one of your Mom's students, I was lucky to meet her a long time ago, and I know why she was loved by all. Take care and God bless.##imported-begin##Kathy Keefer Barker##imported-end##*

August 16, 2013 at 04:40 PM



“ *I am grateful that I got to meet your mother and feel blessed I was able to share Thanksgiving with her - She was a really neat lady##imported-begin##Nancy Thrasher##imported-end##*

August 16, 2013 at 03:22 PM



“ *Else,
I will miss you so much my dearest friend. At German choir, holidays and family gatherings I will always think of you playing or singing beautiful music. You taught me many things in life and that we cannot change the music of our souls. We became family over the past 16 yrs. through our fox terriers whom we dearly loved and for that I am truly grateful. Love Always, Diane
Good is the Lord to one who waits for him to the soul that seeks him. Lamentations 3.27##imported-begin##Diane Ricotta##imported-end##*

August 16, 2013 at 12:27 AM



“ Our deepest condolences and sympathies on Mrs. Shewmake's passing. Your family is in our thoughts and prayers.

The Cline Family##imported-begin##*Jack and Morgan Cline*##imported-end##

August 15, 2013 at 09:08 PM



“ Lafrida, Kurt, and Girls -- I'm just one among so many who are mourning alongside you! Ms. Shewmake changed my life forever when I walked into your house as a 10-year-old to begin piano lessons with her! Every week when I arrived for my lesson, I always felt like I had stepped out of Lawrenceville and into a little part of Germany, seeing your pristine yard with fir trees and garden gnomes and listening to the two of you talk in German! I eventually chose German as my college minor, studied there for a summer, and even visited your mother's hometown, Bad Windsheim. As for my seven years of piano studies with your mother, they were well worth my parents' investment -- I've been so blessed to be teaching piano since 2006. Ms. Shewmake told me not long ago that you learn more as a teacher than you ever did as a student -- she was right! If I can make even a fraction of the difference in my students' lives that your mother made in mine, then I figure I'm doing okay! :) My prayers are with you.....##imported-begin##*Melissa Bagwell Tolentino*##imported-end##

August 15, 2013 at 01:46 PM



“ The world has lost a wonderful lady. She taught me piano for many years. She has left a tremendous legacy, touched many lives. Her passing is the end of an era. She was strong in her faith and gentle in her dealings with those around her. She was a strict piano teacher, but you always knew she cared for you. Not just to nurture any talent we might have had, but she gave of her heart to any student she taught. There is beautiful music in heaven and guess who is playing the piano - you got it - Mrs. Shewmake.##imported-begin##Sylvia Allen Black##imported-end##

August 15, 2013 at 09:50 AM



“ Lafrida, you probably don't remember me, but I lived in Lawrenceville many years ago. I used to go to your house for piano lessons. Your brother used to come to our house to visit my brother Bob. They were class mates. Your Mother was a great woman and we all loved her. I am so sorry for your loss.##imported-begin##Jan Hurley Bruner##imported-end##

August 15, 2013 at 05:54 AM



“ Lafrida: I'm so sad to hear of your mother's passing. I am one of those kids that was blessed to take piano from Mrs. Shewmake. She was a lady of true patience. I remember her keeping time on my shoulder. She will truly be missed but her memories and teaching will always be with us. She taught us so much more than music. For me, determination, to have a hard work ethic, practice, practice, practice, and to never give up. Keeping you and your family in my thoughts and prayers. Love, Sue##imported-begin##Sue Maddox Meeks##imported-end##

August 14, 2013 at 11:10 PM



“ Lafrida and family, May God comfort you during the loss of your precious mother. I will always treasure the moments I spent in the presence of your mom. While musicianship didn't come easy for me, she nurtured what little talent I had. At least one of her saying comes to mind every day, "the house doesn't lose things," "men make work," "don't be loyal to your mistakes," are among my favorites. I also have memories of her placing pennies on the back of my hands and going home with a sore shoulder from her tapping the beat into me. Wouldn't trade these for anything! Your Mom was so talented, and had so much common sense, but more importantly, she had a love for Jesus that shone through everything she did. Our loss is heaven's gain and heaven has gained a gem.##imported-begin##Nedra Williams Rowe##imported-end##

August 14, 2013 at 12:59 PM



“ Hello to all those of the Shewmake family. Our music studio mourns the loss of the brilliant life your mother. We are so proud to know of the incredible influence she had on so many in her community. God bless you and those who feel the loss of this very capable and amazing lady.##imported-begin##Jeanine Skinner##imported-end##

August 14, 2013 at 11:13 AM



“ *Lafrida and family,
I am so very sorry to hear of your mother's passing. I have fond memories of her with her incredible garden. I remember when you and I went fishing ages ago. We didn't catch anything so we stopped by the store on the way back to your house and bought a large fish for dinner. Your mother cooked it right up that evening and served it with dishes of fresh vegetables from the garden. I also remember her egg nog at Christmas. And her laughter. And her never ending love for you. Great memories that I will treasure forever. Thank you for sharing your mother with me so many years ago. Love to you all.*

*Teri & Doug and family###imported-begin##Teri
Frederisy###imported-end##*

August 14, 2013 at 10:57 AM



“ *LaFreida and family, our thoughts and prayers are with you. Your mother was such a talented person. My! How she loved to be outside growing things! We enjoyed so much our time spent helping her with the garden this year. We will miss her so much. We hope that Heaven has a little place where she can play in the dirt and make music! God's Blessing to each of you.###imported-begin##Howard & Bobbie Turnage###imported-end##*

August 13, 2013 at 10:48 PM



“ *Our sincere condolences to Elsa's family. She was a great lady. We spend many singing performances and socials together for the Atlanta Saengerkreis.
May god bless her sole.###imported-begin##Ingrid & Dieter
Finke###imported-end##*

August 13, 2013 at 06:23 PM



“ We have know each other for a very long time, your one of the first Germans I met when coming to the States and moved to Lawrenceville, sang together visited and all that, shall miss you, and now we have another star in the sky to look at....Rest in Peace##imported-begin##Christa Windham##imported-end##

August 13, 2013 at 06:20 PM



“ Lafrida & Family...My heart goes out to you all as you mourn the loss of a lady who was truly larger than life. For most of my childhood, I took piano lessons from Mrs. Shewmake, and while I was certainly not the musician many of her students were, she instilled a true love of music that will last a lifetime. I smile as I write this thinking of the twinkle in her eye, her infectious laugh, the tapping on my shoulder to help me keep the beat, and the ever-constant reminder to practice more. Mrs. Shewmake will always hold a special place in the hearts of so many, including mine. Love to you all.##imported-begin##Melinda Price Russell##imported-end##

August 13, 2013 at 06:00 PM