

Saint Patrick's Episcopal Church



Falls Church, Virginia

Mary (Molly) Lind Shirley Lunsford

February 26, 1936 – August 17, 2022

Mary (Molly) Lind Shirley Lunsford

Saint Patrick's Episcopal Church

10:30 am, August 20, 2022

Gathering Music by Starlight Jazztet

Because He Lives
The Old Rugged Cross
Standin' in the Need of Prayer
Take my Hand, Precious Lord
Wade in the Water
What a Friend We Have in Jesus

Prelude: Just a Closer Walk with Thee

Entrance Hymn: #287 For All the Saints

Welcome

Poem: *Twentieth Century Blues* by J. Allan Lind (1901-1995)

Born with the century
The songs you know
Are jazz songs and blues songs
Others come and go

Could I choose what I wanted
What would I be
But a New Orleans drummer
When jazz broke free

Of all the disasters
The man has withstood
He never quite recovers
From his own childhood

Musical Selection: When the Saints Go Marching In

Collect

Let us pray.

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you this day our sister Molly. We thank you for giving her to us, her family and friends, to know and to love as a companion on our earthly pilgrimage. In your boundless compassion, console us who mourn. Give us faith to see in death the gate of eternal life, so that in quiet confidence we may continue our course on earth, until, by your call, we are reunited with those who have gone before; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A reading from the prophet Isaiah (25:6-8)

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, of rich food filled with marrow.

And he will destroy on this mountain
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,
the covering that is spread over all nations;
he will swallow up death forever.

Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces,
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the
earth,
for the Lord has spoken.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Poem: *Square Dance* by J. Allan Lind (1901-1995)

Life is a series of brief encounters
On the way to other ends
Among the casual strangers
Glimpses of friends

Bow quickly to your corner
Alamand round the hall
How swiftly the dancers answer
How imperative the call

The 23rd Psalm (unison)

The Lord is my shepherd;

I shall not want.

He makes me to lie down in green pastures;

he leads me beside the still waters.

He restores my soul;

he leads me in the paths of righteousness for his Name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I will fear no evil;

for you are with me;

your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil;

my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,

and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

A reading from the book of John (14:1-3)

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn: #488 Be Thou My Vision

A reading from the Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous

(p. 164)

Our book is meant to be suggestive only. We realize we know only a little. God will constantly disclose more to you and to us. Ask God in your morning meditation what you can do for the person who is still sick. The answers will come, if your own house is in order. But obviously you cannot transmit something you haven't got. See to it that your relationship with God is right, and great events will come to pass for you and countless others. The is the Great Fact for us.

Abandon yourself to God as you understand God. Admit your faults to God and your fellows. Clear away the wreckage of your past. Give freely of what you find and join us. We shall be with you in the Fellowship of the Spirit, and you will surely meet some of us as you trudge the Road of Happy Destiny. May God bless you and keep you—until then.

The Apostles' Creed (unison)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Let us pray.

For our sister Molly, let us pray to our Lord Jesus Christ who said, "I am Resurrection and I am Life."

Lord, you consoled Martha and Mary in their distress; draw near to us who mourn for Molly and dry the tears of those who weep. *Hear us, Lord.*

You wept at the grave of Lazarus, your friend; comfort us in our sorrow. *Hear us, Lord.*

You raised the dead to life; give to Molly eternal life. *Hear us, Lord.*

You promised paradise to the thief who repented; bring our sister to the joys of heaven. *Hear us, Lord.*

Our sister was washed in Baptism and anointed with the Holy Spirit; give her fellowship with all your saints. *Hear us, Lord.*

She was nourished with your Body and Blood; grant her a place at the table in your heavenly kingdom. *Hear us, Lord.*

Comfort us in our sorrows at the death of our friend Molly; let our faith be our consolation, and eternal life our hope.

The people may offer their own petitions.

God of love, we pray to you for Molly, and for all those whom we love but see no longer. Grant to them eternal rest. Let light perpetual shine upon them. May her soul and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer (unison)

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever.

Poem: *I Am Proud of You* by Chana Safran

I'm proud of you, sister of my time!
Proud of your tenacity, your advance
Your fought-for freedom.

On how many closed doors have you knocked
And with your will power and wisdom
Burst them open?
How many times have you kindled lights
And kept vigil over the ailing world?
Given healing and comfort
With your life-blood
For new generations
Created new values.

How often has your labor been ignored!
How often your achievements derided!
Yet, see!
Your deeds lift you up like stairs
You are climbing higher, higher
And your torch lights up the night.

The Mourner's Kaddish

Yitgadal v'yitkadash sh'mei raba b'alma di v'ra chir'utei; v'yamlich malchutei b'hayeichon u-v'yomeichon, uv'hayei d'chol beit yisrael, ba-agala u-vi-z'man kariv, v'imru amen.

Y'hei sh'mei raba m'varach l'alam u-l'almei almaya.

Yitbarach v'yishtabah, v'yitpa'ar v'yitromam, v'yitnasei v'yit-hadar, v'yit'aleh v'yit'halal sh'mei d'kudsha, b'rich hu, l'ela min kol birchata v'shirata, tushb'hata v'nehemata, da-amiran b'alma, v'imru amen.

Y'hei sh'lama raba min sh'maya, v'hayim, aleinu v'al koi yisrael, v'imru amen.

Oseh shalom bi-m'romav, hu ya'aseh shalom aleinu v'al kol yisrael, v'al kol yoshvei tevel, v'imru amen.

Translation:

Magnified and sanctified is the great name of God throughout the world, which was created according to Divine will. May the rule of peace be established speedily in our time, unto us and unto the entire household of Israel. And let us say: Amen.

May God's great name be praised throughout all eternity. Glorified and celebrated, lauded and praised, acclaimed and honored, extolled and exalted ever be the name of thy Holy One, far beyond all song and psalm, beyond all hymns of glory which mortals can offer. And let us say: Amen.

May there be abundant peace from heaven, with life's goodness for us and for all thy people Israel. And let us say: Amen.

May the One who brings peace to the universe bring peace to us and to all the people Israel, and to all who dwell on earth. And let us say: Amen.

Recessional Hymn #599 "Lift Every Voice and Sing"

Blessing of the Meal: Our meal of thanksgiving

Postlude: I'll Fly Away

Ministers of the Day:

Austin and Lunsford families, altar flowers
Chris Bagley, reader (Big Book)
Nancy Bayerle, reader (Square Dance)
Mark Carson, drums
Bob Cascella, hospitality
Mary Cheyne, reader (Bible texts)
Don Chirieleison, bass
Dave Erickson, trumpet, cornet
Mariko Hiller, piano and music director
Joe Hiller, live stream
Matt Irvin, liturgist
Michael Knowles, lunch blessing
Lia Knox, crucifer
Steve Lebo, live stream
Jan Macidull, reader (I Am Proud of You)
Kathy Oliver, hospitality and pastoral care
George Petit, reader (Twentieth Century Blues)
Alan Saul, reader (Kaddish)



Mary (Molly) Lind Shirley Lunsford
February 26, 1936 – August 17, 20



Mary (Molly) Lind Shirley Lunsford, 86, died on August 17, 2022 in Falls Church, Virginia from glioblastoma. Molly was born on February 26, 1936, in Chicago, Illinois, to James Allan Lind and Mary Simpson Lind. Raised in Winnetka, Illinois, she attended New Trier Township High School, and Radcliffe College in Cambridge, Massachusetts, where she met Robert (Bob) Lloyd Shirley, of Bessemer, Alabama, whom she married April 6, 1956, at Christ Church, Winnetka. After time in California and Massachusetts, they moved to Evanston, Illinois where they lived until they retired to Flagstaff, Arizona. Molly and Bob's kitchen was known as “The Flamingo Cafe,” a refuge and gathering place. Everyone was welcome in their home, where you can be who you want to be.

In 2001, they left Flagstaff for life on the road, staying in touch with friends via their *News from Nomads* emails. After Bob's 2008

death, Molly traveled by ship and train, eventually meeting and marrying Richard (Dick) J. Lunsford, Jr. on May 5, 2018 at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Alexandria, Virginia.

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) was central to Molly's life since she got sober March 13, 1967. She loved every bit of the program, especially her international connections and the Evanston (Illinois) Foster Park Group, the best home group on the North Shore (hear, hear!). Thanks to the pandemic, she was able to attend home group meetings by Zoom. Her last AA meeting was Foster Park on Thursday, August 11. Molly was also active with PFLAG, Girl Scouts, Brownies, Cub Scouts, the YMCA and YWCA, National Organization for Women, MoveOn.org, and many other organizations.

She is survived by her husband Richard; sister Sarah Cheyne; children Michael and wife Debra; Sarah and husband Alan Saul; Peter and wife Jean Buckley; Virginia Lunsford and husband Bill McBride; grandchildren George, Bea, Miranda, Jacob, Jackson, Greta, Kyler, and Dylan; nephew Tom Cheyne and wife Elizabeth; niece Mary Cheyne; and many AA spouses and friends everywhere.

In lieu of flowers, Molly's memory would be honored by: inviting someone without a home to live with you in your home; sharing a favorite poem with strangers and friends; registering people to vote; working to elect Democratic candidates at all levels of government; and continuing to increase in wisdom, generosity, love, and openness. Memorial contributions may be made to: NARAL Pro-Choice America, 1725 Eye Street NW, Suite 900, Washington, DC 20006; to Episcopal Relief and Development, 815 Second Avenue, New York, NY 10017; or Planned Parenthood (855) 789-7723.

Further arrangements:

Molly's Chicago area friends will gather for a Molly Shirley Memorial BBQ and open AA meeting on Saturday, October 1 in Evanston, Illinois. Time and place to be determined.

Molly donated her body to the Virginia State Anatomical Program to advance medical education. Once released from service, Molly's ashes will be interred at Arlington National Cemetery.

