



Viola Miller

May 22, 1930 - March 3, 2013

VIOLA CHESS MILLER Viola Chess Miller was born May 22, 1930 in San Marino, California to parents Dr. and Mrs. James M. Chess. She died Sunday, March 3, 2013 at age 82. Viola is survived by husband, CDR John R. Miller, US Navy (Ret); daughters, Victoria M. Kight and Linda M. Thomas of Albuquerque; son, Kurt R. Miller; granddaughter, Jennifer and two great granddaughters, Evelyn and Genevieve of California; sister, Linda C. Moriarty. Vi was a 1948 graduate of South Pasadena - San Marino High School and a 1952 graduate of the University of New Mexico where she joined Kappa Kappa Gamma Fraternity in 1949. Upon graduation Viola and John were married in Santa Fe, NM and she began her 26 year career as a Navy wife which took them to Hawaii, Virginia and various California port cities. John's Navy retirement brought them back to Albuquerque in 1978. During the years following she was a member and one-time chairman (yes, she insisted, chairman – not chair or chairwoman) of the Albuquerque Open Space program and was very involved in the effort to acquire and establish the Elena Gallegos recreation park and to protect the Westside escarpment from development. She continued her fraternity affiliation after graduation as an active alumna. Her lifetime interest in music led her to a longtime membership in the UNM University Chorus. Not to be overlooked was her oil and watercolor painting, poetry writing and a variety of social activities, both personal and church-related. The world and her community in it have lost a good person. Her family has lost a loving, faithful, protective, forgiving and

sincere Rock of Gibraltar upon whom we all depended. Cremation has taken place. A Memorial Service will be held Saturday, March 16, 2013, 4:30 p.m. at St John Episcopal Cathedral, 318 Silver SW. Enrichment will take place at the Cathedral of St John Columbarium. Please visit our online guest book for Viola at www.FrenchFunerals.com. FRENCH10500 Lomas Blvd NE 505-275-3500

Tribute Wall

EC

“ As stunned and grieved as you must be at Vi's passing, the Cathedral members collectively and individually have lost their most generous unpaid helper. Vi had helpful tips for all, including how and where to get garden supplies and help, and even tips on how to run the household efficiently. What a role model she was!

Elizabeth Charette - March 19, 2013 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ John and family, Kathy and I are so sorry to learn of the passing of your lovely wife and partner, Viola. I only have the fondest memories of you and Vi always working together as a team and enjoying life to the fullest extent. I will always remember Vi as a strong and caring individual, always concerned about her family. She also had a deep love of nature and of all that God created. We are so sorry for your loss., Dan & Kathy Baca

Dan & Kathy Baca - March 18, 2013 at 12:00 AM

PG

“ John: Sorry to hear about Viola. I remember talking to you and Vi about taking Vi on a vacation trip. Take care and hope to be seeing you soon. Phil

Phil Garry - March 16, 2013 at 12:00 AM

RD

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Ray, Joanne & Brad Davidson - March 16, 2013 at 12:00 AM

AS

“ Please accept my deepest sympathy. I first met Vi as a sister of Kappa Kappa Gamma. She was always full of sparkle and meeting many KKG friends--and others--for happy times together. Her daughter, Linda, has a special place in my heart, too. I know this is a difficult time for all of the family. Each of you will be in my prayers. Alma

Alma Sanderson - March 16, 2013 at 12:00 AM

RG

“ John, Ray I send our sincerest condolences to you and your family on the loss of your loved one. Take care of each other, and may the good Lord bless you all.

Ramon and Margaret Gonzales - March 14, 2013 at 12:00 AM

AG

“ My deepest sympathy to Viola's family. It was my privilege to meet Vi when we were working in support of the City's acquisition of the Elena Gallegos grant. Later on I would see her when we would be involved in other Open Space issues. It was a pleasure to talk with her; her knowledge of the Program and observations were always helpful. This city has definitely benefited from Vi's dedication to preserving our Open Spaces.

Aileen Gatterman - March 14, 2013 at 12:00 AM

KE

“ Dear John, Please accept our heartfelt sympathy during this difficult time. Sara and Peter Kelton

Kelton - March 14, 2013 at 12:00 AM

CD

“ Linda- i know you will miss you mom. I have so enjoyed hearing you talk about your mom and dad. Peace to you and your family.

Carol & Douglas - March 12, 2013 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ Vi was a valued member of University Chorus. I will miss seeing her across the rehearsal room every week.

Margie Maes - March 12, 2013 at 12:00 AM

LS

“ I had the pleasure to sing with Viola in the University Chorus for more than 10 years. She was a dedicated singer who was generous in her praise of others. She always had kind words and a smile for everyone, especially less experienced members. Her generosity of spirit truly set her apart.

Liz Staley - March 11, 2013 at 12:00 AM

BS

“ Our thoughts are with John and family at this time. We already miss seeing Vi walking around the neighborhood everyday. If you need anything, John, we're just across the street.

Brian & Roberta Swanhart - March 11, 2013 at 12:00 AM

MR

“ My prayers and condolences to the family in the loss of their loved one. I worked with Viola for many years as we served together on the board of the Old Sandia Park Service Coop. She will be missed by us all.

MARY REED - March 10, 2013 at 12:00 AM

RS

“ *On behalf of the French Family of Companies we want to express to you our deepest condolences.*

Richard Stewart - March 06, 2013 at 12:00 AM