



Dr. Patrice Dawn Madura Ward-Steinman

May 19, 1952 - June 4, 2020

Dr. Patrice Dawn Madura Ward-Steinman, 68, passed to eternal life on June 4 at Hospice House in Bloomington, IN, surrounded by the love of family and friends after suffering a severe stroke. She was born on May 19, 1952, in Hammond, Indiana, to Michael and Henrietta (Kaminski) Madura. She was a graduate of Sacred Heart School and Clark High School and held degrees from Indiana State University (BSME), San Diego State University (MA), and Indiana University (DME).

Patrice was a Professor of Music Education at Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music, where she taught and advised undergraduate, masters, and doctoral students in choral music education, vocal jazz, and research. She was Music Education Department Chair in the Jacobs School from 2003-2007. Prior to returning to Indiana in 2003, she was Chair and Associate Professor of Music Education at the University of Southern California Thornton School of Music. Her career also included teaching musical theatre, piano, choral and music education, and conducting at Oberlin College, Indiana University-Purdue University at Fort Wayne, Fort Bragg School District, Elliot Pope Preparatory School and Mira Costa College. Patrice has published numerous research articles and books on music education and vocal jazz improvisation, including *Becoming a Choral Music Teacher* (2018) and *Madura's Danceland* (2010). She was a member of the Journal of Historical Research in Music Education editorial board.

Patrice loved playing the piano and enlivened many gatherings with her beautiful music. As a teen, she worked at her family's business, Madura's Danceland, a beautiful maple-floored ballroom in the Robertsdale section of Hammond, just a few miles from Chicago, where patrons danced to the music of famous big bands who also played the hotels and ballrooms in Chicago.

She and her beloved husband, composer and professor, Dr. David Ward-Steinman, whom she married in 2001, traveled extensively and delighted many with their musical talent performing as Duo-Pianists at art galleries, weddings and parties. She was a wine enthusiast and won a California wine-tasting championship in 1987. Patrice was a beloved sister, aunt, colleague, author, teacher, mentor, and friend and will be missed by many.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, and sister-in-law, Charlene Madura. She is survived by her brother, Michael Madura, sister Marcia (Dr. Daniel) Madura Kozlowski, nieces and nephews Michele (Shawn) Leeney, Michael (Sherrie) Madura, Dr. Kimberly (James) Mercurio, and Daniel (Sarah) Kozlowski as well as great-nephews and nieces Kurt and Cara Leeney, Tiffany, Trisha, Michael and Kylie Madura, Julia, Peter, Thomas and James Mercurio and Lila, Grace and Bracken Kozlowski. She is also survived by her stepson Matthew (Maureen) Ward-Steinman and step-grandchildren Isabella, Gabriel and Evelyn and many colleagues, students, and friends with whom she shared her life.

Due to Covid-19 restrictions, services will be private. Memorial contributions may be made to the Patrice Madura Scholarship, which will support students majoring in Music Education at the IU Jacobs School of Music. To make an online gift, please click here at (<https://www.myiu.org/one-time-gift>). In the box with the pencil icon that says "write in gift area," please type "Patrice Madura Scholarship" and select "Add Fund." Your email receipt may say

"Donor Designated - Holding" but your gift will be applied to the Patrice Madura Scholarship. Alternatively, checks may be made out to the IU Foundation, with "Patrice Madura Scholarship" written in the memo line, in c/o the IU Foundation, P.O Box 6460, Indianapolis, IN 46206-6460. Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.allenfuneralhome.org.

Tribute Wall



“ Oh my goodness! I am just now learning about the passing away of Ms. Madura. 😞 I had spoken with her in January of 2020 when I was with my own choir students at an honor choir at Chico State. I have been teaching choral music for 22 years now. She was one of the most influential choir teachers in my life! While she was teaching in Fort Bragg she became close with my family and came to my house to give me piano lessons. My Mom chaperoned several of our choir trips.

My name is Kim Bratton and she came to the Fort Bragg Unified School District when I was in 8th grade. I believe in 1986. We previously did not have a choir program in our school. My Mom and several other parents fought to get a choir teacher. I had always loved to sing and she made choir happen for our school district! She took me and 3 other 7th/8th graders to the CMEA Jr. High Honor Choir at Chico State, where Roger Emerson was the guest director. It was during that honor choir that I truly feel deeply in love with choral music. I soaked up every minute of those rehearsals and I came home crying because I wanted to go back!! It was then then I knew I would become a choir teacher! A funny moment from that trip was that we would call her Mom every time she took us to a restaurant. She would always get a kick out of that! She and the band teacher, and his students, were on that trip as well and we would tease them about being our parents.

I have been teaching choir myself now for 22 years and took my own choir students to Chico State for honor choirs. It was while I was there with my students in January of 2020 that we spoke for the last time. I had messaged with her because I wanted to thank her for being such an inspiration. Being at Chico State with my own choir students really brought back that memory and experience that she had given to me in 8th grade. I was fortunate enough to get to see her a few times over the years at state music conferences and we would try and catch up.

I was the only freshman that she let into her jazz group in high

school. I was so honored and so loved that jazz group. Thanks to her, I learned so much about vocal jazz music. She introduced us to Phil Matson and Michele Weir arrangements. She had us sing "Rock-A-Bye Baby" Michele Weir arrangement and said that she had been waiting for a group who could sing this and we were it! She took us to a jazz festival in Sonora, where we performed for adjudicators, and got to meet Bobby McFerrin and heard him in concert. Since we were so close, she took us to Yosemite on the way home. I think this was back in a time you could still have a glass of wine when students were with you. If not, oh well lol She had a glass of wine at dinner and would tell us all about how to smell the wine and swirl it around. We knew she was a real wine connoisseur! Then she showed us how to lift your pinky while holding the glass lol

I just loved her so very much and will never forget her. So happy that the last time we talked I thanked her and told her how much I appreciated her and how much of an influence she was on my life! She had told me that she still had the piano music box that we had given her at 8th grade graduation. If any of her family reads this, does someone in the family have the music box? I would love to have it to remember her by :-)



Kim Bratton - November 08, 2021 at 12:29 PM

MV

“*Patrice and I went to high school together, then shared a dorm room at Indiana State University. So, I have way too many memories to share. But, my most memorable ones were our shared love for music of all kinds, exploring young adulthood together in Whiting Indiana, and celebrating our new found freedom our first year of college. I could write a book! But, one of my most cherished memories was accompanying Patrice to her practice room and listening to her play that piano for hours. I knew she would be a celebrated musician.*

Heaven is being entertained by a real special soul. Play on my friend. Later...

Michele

Michele Vincent - June 20, 2020 at 03:24 AM

KB

“*Patrice was a bright, shining light, a consummate music education professional and educator, and wonderful friend and colleague to many of us who worked with her. I was lucky enough to become friends with her when she worked at Indiana-Purdue Fort Wayne. Her musical gifts and warm, loving spirit brightened all in her presence. I will miss her intelligent, thoughtful and insightful mind, her passion for the best in life across the board, and so much more! Praying that her family may feel God's healing love and trying to find comfort in Patrice's reunification with David. My sincere sympathies to all of her beloved family.*

Peace,

Katrina Boedeker, Fort Wayne

Katrina Boedeker - June 11, 2020 at 03:58 PM

DS

“ *Dr. Madura's Students purchased the Shades of Purple for the family of Dr. Patrice Dawn Madura Ward-Steinman.*



Dr. Madura's Students - June 10, 2020 at 04:20 PM

KG

“ *On behalf of the members of the Indiana Choral Directors Association, we share our deepest sympathy over Patrice's passing. She presented at our summer conference just last year and was clearly beloved by so many in our profession. Condolences to her family, students, and colleagues.*

Kerry Glann, ICDA president

Kerry Glann - June 10, 2020 at 03:37 PM

MT

“ *Patrice and I were classmates at George Rogers Clark where we first met in our Latin class. I remember her as a kind and happy young lady with a beautiful spirit. Patrice was certainly someone to be admired. She had tremendous talent and intelligence, and I knew at that time that she would impact many lives. I am saddened to learn of her passing. My condolences to her family and all who were privileged to know her.*

Marilyn Tomko

Marilyn Tomko - June 08, 2020 at 11:22 AM

JP

“ I had the pleasure of getting to know Patrice over a four year period of time while in high school together at George Rogers Clark. During our junior year we dated and went to Prom together. We spent many hours talking about Madura’s Dance Land that was practically in my backyard, her love for music and fun we had in choir. We shared a friendship that I will never forget. My condolences to the family

Jeff Pavlovich - June 07, 2020 at 09:58 AM

DF

Such a tragic loss for Patrice’s family, friends and colleagues. She was so great at everything she did- being a beloved wife to David, friend to so many, super family member, terrific teacher and author, wonderful colleague, and an awesome pianist! Her death has left so many in shock and sadness. Sending caring thoughts with sympathy to all.
Sandra and Don Freund

Don Freund - June 07, 2020 at 03:50 PM

RG

“ We are all bound together by where we began and as we grow older those memories rearrange themselves into our personal versions of what we recall...I am grateful for what Patrice left us and will always hold those memories close. So proud to have known you.

Robert Gripp - June 07, 2020 at 09:37 AM

AV

“ I had Dr. Madura as my teacher at IU a few years ago for teaching vocal jazz. I had never really given teaching a thought as something I would enjoy, but she really helped change my mind. When I soon became the student director of my own vocal jazz ensemble, I credit her on so many techniques and helpful tips that I wouldn't have known if it wasn't for her class. She was such a kind, supportive woman and I am so terribly sorry for your loss. She will be greatly missed by so many students at IU and anyone else that she touched.

April Varner - June 06, 2020 at 03:45 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Allen Funeral Home and Crematory - June 05, 2020 at 07:54 PM

HF

Dear Marcia and Family,
We want to send our sincerest condolences for the loss of your beloved sister Patrice.
May God bless her and your entire family.
Harry and Leslie

Harry and Keslie Frank - June 05, 2020 at 11:30 PM

MM

Sixty years of memories my beloved friend! Sacred Heart, Danceland, Arnie's, The Hoosier, ice skating, riding our bikes to far places, playing board games, our duet that won us a medal at NISBOVA, looking for your Christmas presents in the basement, taking the bus to downtown Hammond, our Friday uptown lunches in grade school, your mother's Christmas cookies...I will never forget you. With love, Marcy

Marcy Meldahl - June 06, 2020 at 07:04 AM

PM

*Mike,
So very sorry to hear about your sister. My condolences to you and
your family. May she Rest In Eternal Peace Amen 🙏
God bless.
Marge Prieto
(Ameristar)*

Prieto Margaret - June 07, 2020 at 12:22 PM