



## Richard Julian Livingston

August 25, 1932 - March 28, 2021

With a saddened heart, we announce that Julian Livingston, 88 1/2 years old, passed away on March 28, 2021, peacefully in his home in Bloomington, Indiana. Born Richard Julian Livingston, he was brought into this world by his mother, Ruth Evelyn Livingston (Campbell), in his grandparents' kitchen in Spencer, Indiana at 4 am, August 25, 1932. At the time, his father Clifford Archer Livingston was a newspaper editor, so the announcement read, "Editor and Mrs. C. A. Livingston are the proud parents of a young newspaper man, an addition to the Spencer Evening World force." However, the newspaper would not be his calling. Instead, Julian had many lifelong passions including Music, Arts, Literature, Genealogical Research and Engineering. During his degrees, he was a member of Tau Beta Pi and Phi Alpha Sinfonia.

He studied music composition at Indiana University with the famed German composer, Bernhard Heiden. His musical comedy, *Welcome to France*, co-created with Robert Aichele and produced by the drama department's *Jordan River Review*, was his first significant success, winning best musical in 1954. His quintet and quartet were also premiered during this time period by the faculty American Quintet and a graduate student quartet. He received his Bachelor of Music degree in 1955.

From 1955-57, he was an army 1st Lieutenant in Korea and eventually commanded his own detached operation. He also received a sharpshooter medal. This was followed by an electrical engineering degree at Purdue University, where he graduated cum laude. Starting in 1960 he researched

data transmission via modems at Bell Telephone Laboratories in Murray Hill, NJ. He returned to school and by 1966, obtained a Masters' degree in electrical engineering from the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn, part of New York University. In 1985, AT&T awarded him a Distinguished Member of Technical Staff for scientific advances in the field of data transmission; especially notable being his approach to a system wide cleanup of phase jitter from both the analog and digital long distance plant, a notorious limit to data transmission's speed and error performance. He stayed with Bell Labs until he retired in 1989. He also belonged to the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. During his life he composed many pieces of music for piano, voice, chamber groups and orchestra. In 1988, he was listed in Who's Who in Music. As conductor of the Elysium Chorale, he was commissioned by the Battleground Arts Center of Freehold, NJ, to write an opera to celebrate the bicentennial in 1976. He wrote and conducted *A Twist of Treason*, the story of the events leading to Benedict Arnold's treason. One NJ reviewer wrote, "...much of the score was contemporary in style, with well-conceived use of dissonances, sound effects from the percussions, and from machines on stage." This was also performed in Bloomington, Indiana in 2005. In 1983, he was commissioned again to write a musical to celebrate the Battle of Monmouth. He wrote one about Molly Pitcher, a female patriot that tended to the soldiers on the battlefield. His symphonic overture, *Paleophony*, was premiered by the New Jersey State Symphony Orchestra. Ann Rutledge was sung by the Women's Chorus of Monmouth Conservatory. His *Concerto for Small Orchestra* has also been read by the Bloomington Camerata. Throughout his musical career, Julian frequently sought to leverage the artistic talents of his family. Grandchildren would have supporting roles in performances and music composition lessons. Evelyn Binz, (sister-in-law) premiered his *Sonata No. 1 for Piano* at her New York Lincoln Center debut. *The Ancient Spake*, a song cycle based on a poem by his father Clifford Livingston, was premiered in February of 1997 by his daughter Diana. In

addition, Diana premiered Poseidon and Aphrodite (1990) and Three Poems by Emily Dickinson (1987). Julian Livingston was a long time member of The Composer's Guild of New Jersey.

After retirement, one of Julian's many passions was Genealogy. He researched his DNA lineage for his parents and several family lines. He gave talks about old photographs and tintypes and how to date and interpret their contents. He has been on the board of the Monroe County Historical Society serving over time as President, Vice President, Chair of the Archive Committee, and Director of the Genealogical Library. Following two terms of presidency, Julian received the Society's Gayle Cook award and they have since named the archives in his honor. He wrote a number of books about his ancestors, including The Serious Business series and The Gallups of Spencer.

After retirement, Julian created inventory programs for local businesses. Also, he created and managed websites for the county museum on historical subjects. In addition, Julian and Mary Pat spent many years traveling through Europe and the British Isles. Julian also took Susan to Scotland.

Writing and painting were other lifetime pursuits. He won best painting for "Ruined City," a grim, apocalyptic city scene that took Best In Show at the Manalapan Art Fair in 1964. Because he had won the previous year, he was under enormous pressure to enter another art work so he took a tire, tipped up a plastic foot bath and made a face on it. Under the tire, he wrote, "I'm tired," entered it and won Most Original and Best In Show at a Bell Labs in-house exhibit in 1977. Other oil paintings have taken first place in various exhibits as well. He has also written and published works of fiction under Xlibris, The Anonymous North American Tour of Franz Liszt and a sequel, Paganini, the Vampire Career, published by AuthorHouse in Bloomington, Indiana.

He is survived by his wife, Mary Pat (Heliker) Livingston and his daughters by Lillian Livingston; namely, Susan and her husband, Peter Washabaugh; Diana

and husband Geoffrey Friedley. Through marriage to Mary Pat, his other children fathered by Archie M. Bowser Junior (deceased) were Debbie and husband Dale Glenn; and David, recently deceased, and wife Patricia (Steele) Bowser. He also leaves behind his grandchildren Pearce Washabaugh and wife Masa Aleckovic; Alec and wife Anna (Buzolits) Washabaugh; Grace Friedley; Lainey (Glenn) and husband Joshua Clark; Andrew and wife Michelle Glenn; Tyler Glenn; Jeremy and wife, Heidi Glenn; Katlyn (Bowser) and husband Scott Gordon; David C. Bowser, II and wife Amber; Kara Bowser and several great grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers the family encourages everyone to consider a memorial contribution in Julian's name to the Monroe County Historical Center, 202 E. 6th St. Bloomington, IN 47408 where he had created a genealogy library. Graveside services for Julian complete with with military honors will be held Saturday, April 10, 2021 at 3:00PM at the Riverside Cemetery in Spencer, Indiana. Visitation for Julian will be held Saturday April 10, 2021 from 12 PM Noon until 2:00PM at Allen Funeral Home and Crematory 4155 South Old State Road 37.

Online condolences, photos and memories may be shared with family and friends at [www.allencares.com](http://www.allencares.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Riverside Cemetery

498 West Jefferson  
Spencer, IN 47460

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR 10. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Allen Funeral Home and Crematory  
4155 S. Old State Road 37  
Bloomington, IN 47401  
(812) 824-5905  
<http://www.allencares.com>

## Graveside Service

APR 10. 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Riverside Cemetery  
498 West Jefferson  
Spencer, IN 47460

# Tribute Wall



“ Julian was so kind and helpful to my partner and me. He and Mary Pat welcomed us as new neighbors with smiles and cookies. Whenever we spoke, I could tell Julian was carefully considering and coming up with something helpful, kind, or both. He offered to be there if I ever needed to talk and helped me through several difficult situations with honest advice. Recently, he agreed to tutor me on piano technique, and we both enjoyed afternoons of recital, critique, and planning the next piece to tackle. I was moved beyond words when he called one afternoon in March to tell me how impressed he was with the Rachmaninov Rhapsody I shared. Julian gave me the confidence to take it on and made my life better in so many ways.

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**Ted Boardman** - April 10, 2021 at 10:13 PM



DL

“ Julian changed my life and my passion for family history. He went above and beyond. Because of him I have been able to find out who I really am and where I came from. He may have been the longest living Livingston male. Surpassing my own Dad.

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**David Livingston** - April 09, 2021 at 05:45 PM

DM

“ I met Julian some 42 years ago during a difficult time in my life...I was 21 and I couldn't believe how old he was (mid 40's (!)) or how smart he was. We became lifelong friends and things got quickly got better for both of us. Shortly thereafter, we both met our life-partners (Tery & Marypat) ...both of these ladies were foolish enuf to become our respective spouses...we have shared weddings, anniversaries and sad times -always together or a phone call away. As we all know, Julian retired as a distinguished engineer from AT&T and he was rocked by health issues for a long time. But, in spite of these challenges, look in his eyes in the attached photo, he still is that 40 year old “kid” I met when I was 21. RIP old friend - you will remain in our hearts forever



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**David Michaud** - April 09, 2021 at 08:24 AM

FW

“ From Geraldine Washabaugh purchased the Rose Remembrance for the family of Richard Julian Livingston.



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**From Geraldine Washabaugh** - April 07, 2021 at 03:39 PM

DS

“ So sorry to hear of Julian's passing. What a man! He knew so much of our genealogy since we were distant cousins. He will be missed by so many....Mary Pat big hugs to you!

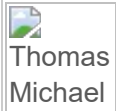
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**Donna Stogsdill** - April 06, 2021 at 10:59 AM

EE

“ Just want to send sincere condolences to Mary Pat and the family from one of the many here in NJ that looked up to Julian for guidance.

Eve Ellsworth - April 01, 2021 at 08:59 PM



Thomas Michael

*My sympathies. During Julian's time in NJ he touched & guided so many...his love continues to radiate across the years in the lives he changed.*

Thomas Michael - April 02, 2021 at 12:03 PM

ML

*Thank you Thomas for remembering Julian after so many years. He enjoyed his association in NJ with so many friends whether in the program or elsewhere. Peace to you. Mary*

Mary Livingston - April 04, 2021 at 03:03 PM

ML

*Thanks for the sympathy card. So appreciated.*

Mary Livingston - April 26, 2021 at 07:02 PM

DM

“ RIP my oldest & “bestest” friend...

David Michaud - April 01, 2021 at 02:58 PM

PM

“ I met Julian when we working on the Pond Committee at Winslow Community Association. I was privileged to have been in his presence. Julian left an impression on anyone where ever he left his hand print. Frank and I enjoyed his play with an alien theme(Julian was blessed with a creative mind.) My sympathy to all his family and friends.  
*Phyllis Mitchell*

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**Phyllis Mitchell** - March 31, 2021 at 12:17 PM

ML

“ The Bloomington Playwrights Project had a long association with Julian including membership, staging events and helping with all aspects of the Project. He was passionate new plays be presented for the public. The BPP had a great start many years ago with Julian. He will be missed by many.

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**Mary Livingston** - March 30, 2021 at 03:10 PM

VF

“ Valerie Smith & family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Richard Julian Livingston.



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**Valerie Smith & family** - March 30, 2021 at 10:30 AM