



## Bonita A. "Bonnie" Oviatt

August 9, 1943 - February 25, 2020

Bonita Ann "Bonnie" Oviatt, 76, of Estero, FL passed away peacefully on Tuesday, February 25, 2020 at her residence. A deeply spiritual woman, she vacationed in Sanibel for many years before moving seasonally to Estero in 2015, also calling Cleveland, OH home. Bonnie was born August 9, 1943 in Cleveland, a daughter of the late Peter J. and Eva C. (Grapka) Zummo. She earned her Bachelor of Music Education Degree at Lindenwood University and did her graduate studies at Syracuse University and Penn State University.

Bonnie was an accomplished organist, and even toured East and West Germany on a Bach pilgrimage. She taught music at Hawken School in Lyndhurst, OH and music theory at The Music Settlement in Cleveland. She was Music Director at various churches, and also worked as an artist contact at the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame and Museum. She often said that she "went from Bach to Rock." Another passion of hers was gathering and creating artwork from sea glass.

Survivors include her beloved husband of 40 years, Roger K. Oviatt; loving sons, Timothy K. (Amber O'Shea) Oviatt of Nahant, MA and Peter G. (Jamie McPartland) Oviatt in Portland, OR; sister, Sandra C. Lang of Middletown, RI; brother, Peter J. (Stephanie Woodard) Zummo of Staten Island, NY; and cherished granddaughter, Oksana L. Oviatt. In addition to her parents, she

was preceded in death by her son, David Oviatt.

A memorial service to celebrate her life will be held on Saturday, March 21, 2020 at 10:00 AM at First Presbyterian Church of Bonita Springs, 9751 Bonita Beach Rd., Bonita Springs, FL 34135. Inurnment will be held in Resurrection Garden. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in Bonnie's name may be made to First Presbyterian Church of Bonita Springs.

Arrangements are being handled by Shikany's Bonita Funeral Home.

# Cemetery Details

## First Presbyterian Church of Bonita Springs Resurrection Garden

9751 Bonita Beach Road  
Bonita Springs, FL 34135

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

MAR 21. 10:00 AM (ET)

First Presbyterian Church of Bonita Springs  
9751 Bonita Beach Rd.  
Bonita Springs, FL 34135

# Tribute Wall



“ *Bonita A. "Bonnie" Oviatt*

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October 09, 2023 at 03:40 AM



“ *Dear Roger and family,*

*Bonnie was one of the kindest people I have ever had the pleasure to know. She had a love of music which became a mutual connection in our long lasting friendship. I am so happy that you and Bonnie came to hear me perform here in Cleveland recently, and was reminded once again of the joy and passion for life which Bonnie never lost.*

*May dear Bonnie rest in peace. All my prayers and sympathy to you and your family.*

*Cliff Habian - March 25*

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**Cliff Habian** - March 25, 2020 at 08:13 AM



“ *Finding Bonnie and Roger at our Florida church was a great surprise. Bonnie recognized us right away, and the results of this discovery were that we bonded instantly and spent many uplifting times at church as well as home. We had been friends in Cleveland long ago, and nothing had changed. I am sure that heaven has an enthusiastic new angel. All good wishes and memories to Roger and her extended family. Cherie Arnold and David Pavlich*

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**Cherie Arnold** - March 19, 2020 at 04:36 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Bonita A. "Bonnie" Oviatt.*



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March 05, 2020 at 05:23 PM



“ *Kay Foth lit a candle in memory of Bonita A. "Bonnie" Oviatt*



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**Kay Foth** - March 05, 2020 at 04:57 PM



“ *Dear Roger and Family, sending my sincerest condolences on the loss of your wonderful wife and mom!! Bonnie was such a beautiful, talented and kind woman. She and my late husband Ron were in the same class at John Adams High School in Cleveland and played in the band together. We saw Bonnie and Roger at many high school reunions and they made several visits to our home in Columbus. Those were always so special, especially, when Bonnie brought down her beautiful sea glass. She loved each piece and her photography of her collection was truly amazing. I'll miss Bonnie so much with her FB posts of her family and especially her beautiful granddaughter , her very detailed emails and all their fun visits! I love you Bonnie and you'll be in my heart forever! Heaven has a new Angel!*

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**Kay Foth** - March 05, 2020 at 04:53 PM

JF

“ Roger, Tim & Peter,

*I'm so sorry for you loss.*

*Bonnie was a great person and, without a doubt, was the coolest "organist" I've ever met! Her love for music was contagious. She helped me many times. Her love for rock and roll was a very endearing. She even helped us throw together a rock band for a church (Forest Hills) talent show one time. She had great stories.*

*Joe Ferrara  
Lorain, Ohio*

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**Joe Ferrara** - March 05, 2020 at 09:16 AM

DL

“ *Bonnie was a dear friend, a passionate lover of music from Bach to Rock, and of many of the artists I have worked with closely, especially Brian Wilson and Dion. She will have the best playlist in heaven. God bless. And Godspeed. David Leaf*

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**David A Leaf** - March 04, 2020 at 09:51 PM

BD

“ *As a child I knew Bonnie as the choir director at our church and she was always so patient and kind and tried to include all of the children, even those who can't sing well. Later, she played the organ for my wedding. I am blessed to have known her and she touched my life in a special way. She is truly missed. Memory Eternal. Barb DiPuccio*

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**Barb DiPuccio** - March 04, 2020 at 08:30 PM



“ A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Bonita A. "Bonnie" Oviatt.



March 04, 2020 at 04:40 PM



“ Susan and I were blessed to have had Bonnie as a friend. The connection came from our son, Will, who was at school with her son, Tim, as well as Boy Scouts. They worked together for several summers for my tree company. Bonnie was such a fun, loving, life-loving, energetic person. There were always laughs and smiles when we were together. Our sincerest sympathy to Roger, Tim & Pete - love & hugs to you all.

Lauren Lanphear - March 04, 2020 at 04:26 PM



“ I've known Bonnie from Audubon Junior High school through John Adams High School. After 40 years of separation, I was lucky enough to reconnect with Bonnie and Roger. Since then she became part of my family and we spent many wonderful hours talking about "Adams", our band days and our old friends. I can only wish we had more time to talk and laugh and remember. I miss her.

Pete Precario

Pete Precario - March 04, 2020 at 10:36 AM

BR

“ Our thoughts and condolences go out to Roger and the family. I had the opportunity to work as a photographer with Bonnie for the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. She was a great lady and would always greet you with a smile. She was the number 1 fan of Brian Wilson. Rest in peace. Bob & Dory Rossbach

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**Bob Rossbach** - March 04, 2020 at 08:51 AM

BW

“ Bonnie was the best college roommate ever! We were both Music Majors at Lindenwood and laughed more and had more fun than any two people on campus!

*Bonnie was a remarkable musician and would practice Bach Tocata and Fugues on the pipe organ separated only by the wall by my bed. The reverberations were strong enough to vibrate our whole suite. What's better than "Bumping with Bach?"*

*Bonnie was the most brilliant, caring, loving, gentle, beautiful soul on this earth. We have connected and re-connected through the years. We kept in touch by emails for decades and planned to meet in Portland this summer.*

*Though separated by 1000s of miles, our lives ran on parallel tracks. We had a relationship that only best friends can have.*

*I will miss her funny, newsy letters with all the stories of her amazing sons and beloved granddaughter.*

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**Betty Ann Whiton** - March 03, 2020 at 06:14 PM

BR

“ *A Dear Friend and a Beautiful Person. We will always remember our friendship. May God Bless You Always . Prayers for You , Roger and Your Family. Anne & Bob Rizzi*



Bob Rizzi - March 03, 2020 at 02:29 PM

BP

“ *So many years--too many times to remember. About six years ago a now mutual friend brought Roger and Bonnie out to find me on Pine Island. Since then we have shared many fun hours together. I will miss her terribly.*

Barbara Peckinpaugh - March 03, 2020 at 11:09 AM

BP

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Barbara Peckinpaugh - March 03, 2020 at 11:07 AM

AW

“ *Aunt Connee Wells purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Bonita A. "Bonnie" Oviatt.*



Aunt Connee Wells - March 03, 2020 at 11:04 AM