



## Martha Grant Jenks

April 28, 2009

Martha (Grant) Jenks, 58, of Syracuse died unexpectedly Tuesday at University Hospital. Born in Syracuse, she graduated from Skaneateles High School in 1968 and is a graduate of Syracuse University with both Bachelors and Masters Degrees. She was a teacher for 23 years at Fowler High School. Martha was a lifelong musician, who played in many groups including Kambuyu Marimba Ensemble, Tired Hands String Band, The Usual Suspects, and The Near Mrs. She also practiced Tai Chi, was devoted to her pets and a friend to all creatures great and small. She is survived by her two sons Tyler (Karen) Jenks and Ethan Jenks (Lisa Oliver) both of Syracuse; a sister Carolyn Stafford of Dewitt; two brothers Richard (Joan) Grant of Baldwinsville and David (Florence) Grant of Weedsport; many nieces and nephews, and a soon to be expected granddaughter. She was a devoted educator who will be greatly missed by her school, her students, and numerous friends. Please join us for a service and reception at 4 pm Tuesday at St. James Episcopal Church, 96 East Genesee Street, Skaneateles. Feel welcome to share your memories with us. There are no calling hours. Private burial will be held in Lakeview Cemetery, Skaneateles. Arrangements by B.L. Bush & Sons Funeral Home, 10 Genesee St., Camillus. To honor Martha's spirit, in lieu of flowers, the family requests that contributions be made to The Martha Jenks Memorial Fund, 114 Cooper Lane Syracuse, NY, 13214. Donations will be distributed to various Zimbabwean relief groups that were close to Martha's heart. Please sign her guestbook at [www.BLBUSH.com](http://www.BLBUSH.com) A Video of

Remembrance

# Tribute Wall



“ *B.L. Bush & Sons Funeral Home / Monuments created a Tribute Video in memory of Martha Grant Jenks*



**B.L. Bush & Sons Funeral Home / Monuments** - December 02, 2014 at 11:52 AM

SJ

“ *Dear Carolyn, Ethan, Tyler & Family Members, I am still hurting from the loss of Martha. It helped me to come to Syracuse, to be a part of the service, and to see you. Martha helped me to be a better person. She was tolerant and gentle, not loud, or bossy, arrogant or rude. Martha could say something funny to make everyone see things in a less intense way. The way she cared for things unnerved me. She would feed abandoned kittens with a medicine dropper. She refused to kill the bat that lived in her house. I always felt lucky to be in her presence. I am with you in your loss of Martha.*

**Sarah Jenkins** - May 17, 2009 at 12:00 AM

CB

“ *Dear Ethan and Tyler, Your Mom was an exceptionally gentle and loving soul. My heart goes out to you both. I know she is loving and caring for you still. May you feel and know that somehow. Blessings be upon you. Matthew and I will be there on Tuesday. Love, Cynthia Barnett*

**Cynthia Barnett** - May 05, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ To Martha’s Family and friends, There is no music in a “rest”, but there is the making of music in it. How does the musician read the “rest”. I see Martha beat the time with unvarying count, and catch up the next note true and steady, as if no breaking place had come between. If we sadly say to ourselves that there is no music in a “rest”, let us not forget there is the making of music in it. The making of music is often a slow and painful process in this life. We all know the pain of losing someone we love but rather than allowing sorrow and grief to rule our lives, we can turn even a time of tragedy into a growing experience when we give it to God. My memories of Martha are of her kindness and love to our family. She was a thoughtful and loving woman. She was always helping people and animals. She set a classic example with her life, and she touched so many lives. It is good to take something she was skillful and adept in and determine that we are going to develop that in ourselves. We will be following the good example that Martha has shown us. I always loved and respected Martha. I am sorry that I could not be there today. I just heard about the service on Monday night. God is with you and a present help in this time of trials faced. Martha is called aside from the world’s ceaseless stir of care and strife Into the shade and stillness by the Heavenly Guide Called aside to be with Christ to dwell Into the glade of healing and love I see her playing her musical instruments She is whole and healed and at peace.  
With Much love, Jane

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**Jane Caughey** - May 05, 2009 at 12:00 AM

PP

“ Martha made pretty music. Sympathies to all of her family and friends.

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**Pam Proctor** - May 05, 2009 at 12:00 AM

AM

“ To Martha's family and friends, I had the pleasure of working with Martha all of the 23 years she spent at Fowler. Her smile will be missed along with her strong desire to support our students. She was a wonderful teacher. She will be missed but not forgotten. Her spirit will live on through all those that were lucky enough to cross her path.

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**Angela Mastriano** - May 04, 2009 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ My sorrow is immeasurable. The shock - undeniable. I wish to express my most sincere sympathy to Martha's surviving family. I am so glad that I was able to introduce marimba music into her world for her to enjoy these last few years.

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**Stan Sitnik** - May 04, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ K & T and all the family - we are so sad that Martha won't be here to share the joys of being a grandmother. I know she would have been as wonderful a grandmother as she was a mother. She always found the best in everyone and will be greatly missed by all who knew her. Wish I had known her better.

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**Joan Hudecek** - May 04, 2009 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ I was shocked to hear of Martha's sudden passing. She was always so full of life and eager for another round of 3M (Martha, Margaret, Mary) mischief. I cannot be there to celebrate her well lived, but too short, life with all of you, but I will walk to the water tomorrow and blow bubbles in her honor.

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**Mary Sullivan** - May 04, 2009 at 12:00 AM

MW

“ Although we never met, we had heard so many amazing and wonderful stories from Ethan. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family.

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**Max and Danielle Weintraub** - May 04, 2009 at 12:00 AM

RT

“ Tyler, Ethan and Carolyn my heart goes out to each and everyone of you. Martha aka M was someone very dear to my heart. She touched my spirit with her laughter, compassion, Buddah nature and love. She will always have a special place in my heart. I will miss her dearly. I have put up a memorial to her on my website [cnytaichi.com](http://cnytaichi.com) In the spirit of T'ai Chi, Randie

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**Randie Turnbull-Hughes** - May 04, 2009 at 12:00 AM

PS

“ To Ethan and family, Let the Lord be your strength in this very difficult time. Trust in God and He will see you through. Psalm 28:7 says "The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and I am helped." Try to remember that. My prayers are with you.

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**Patricia Smith** - May 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM

MD

“ Ethan, Tyler, and Family - I was stunned when I saw the paper! I am so sorry for your loss. Martha and I graduated from SU together in 1986. Martha, myself, and a third friend, Carrie Walker, spent many hours studying, encouraging, and supporting each other through to graduation. Carrie and I had nicknamed her "Wordy" - she was always the last one out of every test and exam because she knew so much more, and would never leave out even the smallest detail! We all lost touch as our new careers took us to different areas, but I never forgot her, and will always love her. My sincerest condolences for your loss.

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**Maggie Dorsey-Nocilly** - May 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ To Martha's Family & Band Members, It was always such sweet bliss to hear you play and carry away the feeling of love and spirit within. Thank you Martha for being a part of the Fowler team where my son, Adam graduated in 2003. Enjoy your flight.

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**Donna Setrella** - May 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM

CC

“ Truly a unique and gentle spirit. Martha had a singular view of the world that was funny, insightful, forgiving, generous and interesting. She was a born Master Teacher! Carolyn and all, I was sorry to hear about Martha.

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**Connie Caughey** - May 02, 2009 at 12:00 AM

EO

“ sorry for the loss from a lurking member of the nboard forum

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**edward e oliver** - May 02, 2009 at 12:00 AM

LP

“ *Martha was a very special person who was always smiling and laughing. If you listen closely, you will be able to hear her music gently playing in the breeze. Carolyn, Martha will always be in your heart and memories. Take solace in the fact that she is at peace.*  
*Lynne and Dominick*

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**Lynne Puzo** - May 02, 2009 at 12:00 AM

LW

“ *Dear Carolyn, Ethan, Tyler and the rest of the family. My thoughts and prayers are with you all. Martha will always be with us in the music she shared with us, the dog walks and fond memories of laughing at ourselves. I looked forward to those days when I came home and she was in the backyard playing with Bob and Bernadette--we had some pleasant chats then. She will be missed.*

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**Liz Williams** - May 02, 2009 at 12:00 AM

RC

“ *Please know that your loss on this earth has made heaven a better place.*

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**Russ Clark** - May 02, 2009 at 12:00 AM

DM

“ *To Martha's Family and Friends, Martha was one of a kind. I will miss our talks, mowing our lawns, snow blowing out the end her driveway, her music and most of all her smile. Say hi to Chance for me. Your neighbor, Dawn*

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**Dawn McLaughlin** - May 01, 2009 at 12:00 AM

TN

“ Dave Grant, So sorry to hear of your loss. It's hard to lose a sibling or any member of your family for that matter. I've been there and know how ya feel. Remember the good times you had with Martha. She will always be in your heart. I never met her but I'm sure she was a special lady. Prayers to you and your family at this time of sorrow. Tyler Neff

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**Tyler Neff** - May 01, 2009 at 12:00 AM

DG

“ In memory of Martha: you gave me the gift of music. Your welcoming, sweet spirit got me involved in marimba. You continue to inspire and connect us. We love you!

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**Diana Green** - May 01, 2009 at 12:00 AM

LF

“ To Martha's family and friends, I will miss chatting with Martha throughout all of our mowing lawns to shoveling snow. We loved talking about our dogs and school. I'm still in shock and will miss her very much. Martha you are in a better place, give hugs and kisses to my dogs up there with you. We took care of Bob for you. Bless you. Laurie and ZeZe

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**Laurine Feldmeth** - May 01, 2009 at 12:00 AM

RH

“ To the Jenks Family. I have worked with Martha for 11 years. My last memory was last Friday-she was telling us at lunch about watching her son's band. She performed the song of the previous band and had us in stitches. She didn't have a mean bone in her body. Martha-we love you and you will be missed at Fowler.

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**Renee Hartnett** - May 01, 2009 at 12:00 AM

GW

“ Tyler and Ethan, You are in our thoughts and prayers. Your mom was loved by many and touched so many lives.

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**Gary and Tracey Waldron** - May 01, 2009 at 12:00 AM

MH

“ I loved to open my windows in the summer and listen to her music as she gathered with friends. Our "driveway meetings" to talk about our dogs and school were mixed with talk and laughter. Martha, you will be missed all over. Say hi to Kayla and Bernie for us. We love you and will miss your spirit. Melanie Boscoe & Cassie

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**Melanie Hoover** - May 01, 2009 at 12:00 AM

BL

“ All I ever knew of Martha was sweetness, gentleness, warmth and driving marimba mallets. I'm so very grateful to have been a part of the Kambuyu celebration at Burritt's the Saturday before last. To Carolyn and Ethan, I'm with you in spirit now and will be with you in person on Tuesday...Love, Bob

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**Bob Lyna** - May 01, 2009 at 12:00 AM

MN

“ It was a privilege to know Martha. Martha helps me with computer skills. She could've helped with guitar too. Long live Martha!

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**mitchell nusbaum** - April 30, 2009 at 12:00 AM

ZS

“ Sorry to hear that Martha died.

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**Zeke Smukler** - April 30, 2009 at 12:00 AM

AM

“ From all of the McIlvaines, our wishes of sympathy. I have had some wonderful conversations with Martha, after many years absence. She made my life better. Thanks, Marthe, for the memories, the understanding, and the true kindness of your heart. We will miss you.

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**Andy McIlvaine** - April 30, 2009 at 12:00 AM

RC

“ To all of Martha's family and friends- I feel your loss and hope that you find peace and comfort soon. We know that Martha has. She is in a happy place with lost of music and generous people like her...

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**Robin Carruthers** - April 30, 2009 at 12:00 AM

TV

“ To Tyler and Family. so very sorry to hear about your loss.you will all be in my prayers.

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**Todd Voigt** - April 30, 2009 at 12:00 AM