

her again. She already knew of her condition, but of course did not intend to give up. She was planning to audition for the Cincinnati and Philadelphia Orchestras who had just announced openings for principal harp. She really loved the United States and was hoping to settle here someday.

At the time of the Soviet Union's dissolution, Boris and Tatiana were granted leave from the St. Petersburg Philharmonic. It was with great relief and joy that they began a new life in Oviedo, Spain, far away from the difficulties of a country in transition. Even though she enjoyed her years in the St. Petersburg Philharmonic, she began to devote her time to playing solo recitals that were her first love. It was with great pleasure that I had a small part in helping her reach some of her goals in those last few years.

During the next two years of her life she moved from Spain to Hilversum, Holland where her husband Boris had been given a fine position with the Orchestra. Tatiana and Boris were planning to buy a house and settle down with their fifteen-year-old daughter, Anastasia, (a budding violinist) and Tatiana's mother. However, Fate had other plans. Her condition worsened this spring. She suffered more operations and much pain. Finally, she succumbed on July 27, 1994. We had spoken by phone about three weeks prior to her passing, and she was unwell, and quite dispirited about not being able to play the harp. We were not taken completely by surprise when we received the news that she had left us. If there is ever an angel who plays a harp, it is she.

Good-bye, dear Tatiana. You will be missed by many. Thank you for giving us so very much. We love you.

De Wayne Fulton

Harriet Wood 1918 - 1994

Harriet Wood passed away in her Long Beach, California home this year at the age of 76.

Harriet studied harp first at the University of Oregon then later continued her studies at the Juilliard School. She was living in Pasadena, California, where her family had moved when she met Robert Wood, a designer and builder of churches. They married in 1938 and moved to Long Beach twenty years later.

Harriet's list of musical credits was very long and impressive. She was the first harpist with the Henry Brandon Symphonette, Disneyland Orchestra and Pacific Pops Orchestra. She performed regularly at the Queen Mary for thirteen years as well as at Alfredo's Restaurant in the South Coast Plaza Hotel, the old Hyatt Edgewater Hotel and the International City Club of Long Beach. In addition, over her thirty-year career she played countless weddings, funerals, club dates and stage productions.

Harriet is survived by her husband, Robert; son, Mark; and daughter, Marcia Stromquist.

Submitted by Dale Barco

Helen Higgins Ellis d. 17 January 1994

Helen Higgins Ellis passed away at Thompson Hospital in Canadaigua, New York on 17 Jan. 1994.

Born in Coudersport, PA as the second of four children of Henry R. Higgins and Belle Huber Higgins, Helen lived with her family in Granville, Washington County and in Dundee, PA before settling permanently in Canadaigua. She graduated from the Canadaigua Academy and the Eastman School of Music, where she majored in harp and public school music. She taught for three years at the Chazy Central Rural School and was an instructor for a brief period at Shortsville Public School. She was later appointed to the faculty of Stephens College in Columbia, MO, where she taught harp until 1939. While on the faculty at Stephens, Helen gave recitals, performed with symphony orchestras, made radio appearances, and played in other types of public performances. In addition, she organized the Stephens College Harp Ensemble. She continued her harp study in 1936 with Marcel Grandjany in New York, and traveled to Fountainbleau for musical studies with Nadia Boulanger.

Helen's natural curiosity extended beyond musical matters. Widow of Historian Herbert J. Ellis, Helen was an active member of the Canadaigua Historical Society, instrumental in the restoration of the Sonnenberg Gardens, acted as a tour guide for those gardens, and was the director of the Colonial Gardens. Moreover, she co-authored a children's book of verse on birds. Her fascination for the world around her was endless. She was a member of the DAR, honorary member of the local Garden Club and a member of the Botanical Society, as well as being an American Harp Society member.

Helen is survived by her daughter, Helen Martha Ellis; a sister, Dorothy Higgins Sprentall; and a niece and five nephews. Her memorial service was held on 4 Feb. during which Roxanne Ziegler played the harp and flutist Jack Carey also performed.

Adequate words do not come easily to describe the dynamic, inquisitive and generous individual who was Helen Higgins Ellis. She will be missed by the many who knew her.

Submitted by Ruth Papalia

Lloyd Lindroth 6 June 1931 - 9 June 1994

Opryland USA lost one of its featured attractions when Lloyd Lindroth died at age sixty-three. However, as Opryland Hospitality and Attractions Group President Jack Vaughn told employees, Lloyd "leaves behind a musical legacy that no one will ever forget."

Lloyd's musical career began when he studied clarinet and saxophone as a youngster in his native Seattle. He first heard the harp while mowing a neighborhood family's yard and fell in love with the sound of the instrument. He worked



Lloyd Lindroth

in a bakery to get money to rent a small Irish harp, bought a how-to-play-the-harp book and secretly taught himself to play the instrument at age fourteen. He even connived his way into a music store to practice.

Having quelled his mother's objections to his studying harp, he delivered newspapers to help pay for his lessons. Subsequently, he won a performance scholarship to Seattle University. In the ensuing years, Lloyd achieved his dream of becoming a great harpist and sharing his beloved instrument with the public.

Early in his career, he was a featured soloist with the United States Army Band, performing at the White House five times. His earliest foray into country music came when he played a stint with Western swing fiddler Spade Cooley on a radio show in Los Angeles. He also wore the hat of a studio artist in that city, working with David Rose, Henry Mancini and Quincey Jones (for whom he played on the soundtrack of the TV miniseries, "Roots").

Lloyd was the first harpist ever to appear on the Grand Ole Opry. He played more than thirty times on TNN's "Nashville Now Show" to a total of nearly sixty million households and developed a following and mail list into the tens of thousands. He was also the first harpist ever to appear as a headliner in a main showroom in Las Vegas, Reno and Lake Tahoe. Nearly eleven years at the Opryland Hotel's famous Cascades with its Dancing Waters and laser light show, he delighted audiences from around the world. He was the main attraction to Music City USA visi-

tors, playing live concerts twice nightly, six days a week to an estimated crowd of over 1.5 million annually. Lloyd was the first harpist to amplify his instrument. He invented an amplification system called the "Voice of the Harp," which became a registered trademark of his company, *HARPLAND*. Lloyd Lindroth persevered through a very long, arduous and painful final eight months of taking rejection medications following his highly publicized heart transplant in October of 1993. With little effort one can easily realize how difficult it was for him to take some twenty-two different medications and go back to the stage twice nightly six weeks and three days following his surgery.

Lloyd worked right up to April 1, 1994, when he finally given approval by his physician to go on a cruise vacation, a trip to which he had looked forward for many years. He became ill on the third day of the beautiful Easter cruise while aboard the Nuuie Amsterdam Ship of the Holland America Line. He was rushed directly to the emergency room at St. Thomas Hospital in Nashville and was quite ill from that point onward until he passed away at 10:56 p.m. on 9 June. Dr. Mark Wigger, head of the transplant team watched Lloyd from day one of his October 1993 transplant surgery until his death and was absolutely "perplexed" at Lloyd's illness as to why and what was wrong. There were no signs of heart rejection whatsoever according to all the tests made, which was confirmed later in an autopsy.

Lloyd Lindroth left us with at least two legacies: his beautiful, romantic audio recordings, and a medical legacy. Of the latter, Dr. Wigger said, "...now that Lloyd has given of himself the ultimate sacrifice of his life here at St. Thomas, we have learned from his symptoms and the autopsy many things that will aid in the possible saving of lives of future heart transplant patients. All the tests performed and microscopic findings produced have taught the transplant team many things that they will use for a long time to come."

Having been Lloyd Lindroth's personal manager for over twenty-seven years, Lloyd was more than just a client; he was a cherished friend. There are plans for a "Harp Museum" to honor him and a personal promise never to let his music die. Lloyd Lindroth's star is just beginning to shine. His music is timeless and so beautiful. Through his music Lloyd will remain with us forever.

George Michaud

Geraldine Shanks Wright
21 March 1905 - 3 August 1994

Harpist Geraldine Shanks Wright led a fascinating life that included expect horseback riding, being the only passenger in the first airplane to fly up to 4,000 feet high, and being honored in 1958 as the Outstanding Professional Woman of Wichita, Kansas, where she lived for fifty-two years. Like so many harpists of her era, she was a musical pioneer of the harp, introducing the instrument to audiences who had never experienced its music before, or heard it in