

All are invited to join the Taylor family and Don Gorman for a

Memorial Celebration for MARIANNE TAYLOR

Sunday, September 28, 2008

Trinity Episcopal Church and Parish Hall

11 Homer Street (at Centre Street near Commonwealth Avenue), Newton Centre, MA
*The church and hall are handicap accessible from Centre Street. Parking is available on nearby streets.
For directions or more information, see www.facone.org.*

2–3 p.m. Memorial Program in the church sanctuary (*entrance on Centre Street*)

3–4 p.m. Reception in the Parish Hall (*entrance on Furber Lane*)

4–6 p.m. Scottish, English, and International Folk Dancing
with The Pinewoods Band, Barbara McOwen and Friends, Mladost Folk Ensemble, and others

Donations may be made in Marianne's memory to the charity of one's choice, or to the Marianne Taylor Tribute Fund for a memorial stone bench at Pinewoods Camp in Plymouth, MA.
For details, see www.caringbridge.org/visit/mariannetaylor1.



Marianne Patterson Taylor, 1930–2008

Marianne Taylor died on August 19 at age 78 after months of battling cancer.

Marianne graduated from Sargent College, Boston University in 1951 with a B.S. in Physical Education and a minor in Dance.

Beginning in 1953, she taught international folk dance and Scottish and English country dance in classes, workshops, school programs and camps throughout the United States and Canada, and in Japan, Australia, and Switzerland.

She received her teacher's certification in Scottish country dance from the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society in 1957, and the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society Scroll of Honour in 2005.

For 25 years, she was the Artistic Director of the Boston Branch Scottish Country Dance Demonstration Team.

Marianne taught a creative dance class for preschoolers in Lexington in the 1950s and '60s and led weekly movement classes at the Perkins School for the Mentally Challenged in Leominster, MA.

In recent years she was an Artist in Residence for school programs through the New Hampshire Council on the Arts.

In 1975, Marianne co-founded the Folk Arts Center of New England

and served as its first Vice President and, later, Program Director through 2004.

She was the recipient of the Boston Dance Alliance's Dance Champion Award in 2007 in recognition of her immeasurable contribution to recreational folk dancing in the Boston area.

In 2008, the National Folk Organization honored her with its Preserving Our Heritage Award.

From 1995 to 2008, she was on the Ralph Page Legacy Committee of the New England Folk Festival Association.

She was a co-founder of the Strathspey and Reel Society of New Hampshire and served as its President from 2004 to 2008.

Marianne played piano for contra, Scottish, and other kinds of dance since the early 1950s.

She played regularly with the Scottish dance band Tullochgorum, the Strathspey and Reel Society of NH, the Lamprey River Band, and other groups, and appeared as backup on several Scottish/Celtic music CDs.

She was a musician and caller for the Deerfield Town Hall Contra Dances, which she had organized since 1991.

An avid traveler in her later years, she helped organize two concert tours in Scotland with the Strathspey and Reel Society of NH, co-led a small group tour in Portugal, and played piano for a Scottish dance tour on a schooner in the Greek Islands.

Marianne leaves her long-time partner, Don Gorman, and is survived by her children and their spouses, Micki Taylor-Pinney and Markus Pinney, Andy Taylor-Blenis and John Blenis, Tina and Bryant McBride, and Mark and Judy Taylor; she was predeceased by a daughter, Joanna Taylor.

She also leaves eight grandchildren, her brother, Michel Patterson, Jr., and eight nieces and nephews.