



## Christine A. Laird

September 15, 1959 - March 16, 2018

Christine A. Laird, 58, of New Britain, Conn. passed away unexpectedly after a brief illness on Friday, March 16, 2018. Born in North Adams, Mass., she was the daughter of the late Donald and Alice (Parker) Laird. She was a resident of New Britain for over 25 years. A graduate of UMass-Lowell in 1982, she received a Bachelor of Music Education and Performance. In 1986 she received her Masters in Music & Voice from the Hartt School, University of Hartford. A former 17 year employee of Cigna, Christine was Managing Director of the Music Series at South Church, New Britain, where she was also a member and the Soprano Section Leader in the South Church Chancel Choir. Christine was also the Director of Operations for CONCORA (Connecticut Choral Artists) where she also served as a choral singer and soloist.

Christine is survived by two brothers, Bruce Laird and his wife Catherine of Port Washington, N.Y.; and Peter Laird and his wife Jeannine of western Massachusetts; a niece, Emily; a nephew, Benjamin and his wife Kelly; and a grandnephew Ian. She was predeceased by her brother, Donald Laird.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, April 7, at 11 a.m. at South Church, 90 Main Street, New Britain, CT 06051. Interment will be at the convenience of the family in the South Church Memorial Garden. There are no calling hours. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Music Series at South Church, 90 Main St, New Britain, CT 06051 or to CONCORA, c/o City Arts on Pearl, 233 Pearl Street, Hartford, CT 06103. Carlson Funeral Home, New Britain is assisting with arrangements. Please share a memory or note of sympathy at [www.carlsonfuneralhome.com](http://www.carlsonfuneralhome.com).

# Cemetery

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## **South Church Memorial Garden**

90 Main Street

New Britain, CT, 06051

# Comments

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“ I met Christine at U. Lowell, she was the finest voice major while I could hold my own on classical guitar. I just found out yesterday (July 17th, '18,) of Chris' passing. She had written to me on faceBook in January of this year 2018 and died 5 days before my cat died in March which was so upsetting alone for me. Had I known she was gone too I would have felt even even more hopeless. We can only hope that life's heartbreaks won't gang up on us like this. I tried to call her two weeks ago while in Hartford area to accompany me on Boulder Dash at Lake Compounce. We'd enjoyed the roller coasters together at Agawam (now Six Flags over New England) on another occasion but my flip phone kept giving me 'Emergency Calls Only.' I was heart broken yesterday when I finally found out. She radiated such wonderful friendship and love and that voice! I heard her sing on an all J. S. Bach Festival under Robert Shaw at Souiac in Southern France and I even have her singing on an original song, "Safe In Your Arms Again" - it is angelic. On the two rides I took on Boulder Dash, I'll always dream that she was sitting with me in last two seats when I rode first in the last car, then at the end of my visit - that she was right there with me in the front row seats and how I remembered her at Agawam, laughing and overjoyed. This is a very tragic sad moment for me. My condolences to all of her brothers, she was so proud of each of you. She introducing me to her entire family one day in New Britain, CT, by showing to me, one at a time, what each of you enjoyed doing. I'll cherish her gifts, the magazines, the towel and the toys, and now the tears.

**Bob Squires** - July 18, 2018 at 01:34 PM

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“ I will truly miss her warm and welcoming smile during The Concora Summer Choral Festival. She went out of her way to make sure that I received the music before I left for Laurel Music Camp during the last week in June. May the God of all comfort be with the Laird family during this time of bereavement.

**Damon E. Coachman** - April 02, 2018 at 11:15 AM

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“ I was so sad to hear of the loss of Christine...or Chrissy as that is what her Mom called her. Alice always shared the news of Chrissy's accomplishments. She was rightly proud of the children she and Don had shared with the world. One time Alice brought brought a recording of Chrissy's beautiful singing to share with us in the staff room. Such a lovely voice! I kept up with and shared greetings with Chrissie but, sad to say, the passing of Alice and Don and my own old age allowed it to fade away. Maybe somewhere Chrissy and Alice are singing a duet. With special condolences to her brothers. Jean Vankin

**Jean Vankin** - April 02, 2018 at 11:09 AM

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“ For me the most moving part of Christmas Eve service at South Church was when Christine hit the high note while singing 'O Holy Night' with the choir. My worship and musical experience (at South Church and as a CONCORA child) for most of my life was enhanced by knowing Christine. I also have a fond memory of her singing the part of Mrs. Potts in a CONCORA Cabaret performance of 'Be Our Guest'.

**Julia Hickman-Himes** - March 31, 2018 at 10:58 PM