



Guy F Williams 1936 - 2023

Invite Guy's family and friends

TRIBUTES

LIFE

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“ Art Auction:

Guy Williams Lifetime Body of Work

[https://artistsanctuary.betterworld.org/auctions/guy-williams-art-lifetime?utm_sou](https://artistsanctuary.betterworld.org/auctions/guy-williams-art-lifetime?utm_source=)

Saturday, May 6, 10AM-4PM

& VIP preview Friday, May 5, 6-9PM

The Artist's Sanctuary

602 West Ave, Red Wing, MN, 55066

- 86 years old
- Born on March 21, 1936 in Sauk Centre, Minnesota, United States
- Passed away on February 13, 2023 in Red Wing, Minnesota, United States

Guy Williams, Online Art Auction of 60+ years of creativity!

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Artist, Musician, Trade Show Display Designer, Co-Owner of Apex Sign and Display, Art Teacher, Mentor, Guy Frederick Williams, (aka GF) died February 13, 2023 at 7:55AM at the Benedictine Nursing Home in Red Wing, Minnesota.

Guy was kind, generous and caring of his many friends and an amazing mentor to fellow musicians and artists. He was also a wonderful story teller.

He had a passion for Music. He loved the ensemble/band experience and made his trumpet sing with tenderness and beauty. Beginning at an early age he played with a Swing Trio in the VFW and bars around International Falls, MN. He went on to play at the University of Minnesota Band, the Army Band and many other bands and ensembles. He had a gorgeous baritone voice and sang solos and in choirs over the years. One very fun fact is that Guy played Papageno in Mozart's Magic Flute while at the University of



Minnesota. He was a lover of Opera, and dreamed of returning to Verona, Italy for the Verona Opera Festival. He had been stationed in Italy during his years of service with the Army Band and was close enough to Verona that he was able to attend the Opera Festival for many performances.

In 2013, Guy was one of 3 fortunate Red Wing musicians who traveled to Afghanistan to play jazz for the presentation of a traveling exhibit of jazz musicians' photographs that was to be gifted by the U.S. State Department to the University of Kabul. During their 16 days in Afghanistan, The Bald Eagles combo (aptly named due to their advanced ages of 69, 77 and 78 and balding) played many concerts. They played at the U.S. Embassy, the University of Kabul, several orphanages, and for several gatherings of Expats.

Guy was an extraordinary visual artist! He used a bold acrylic color palette and created hundreds of amazing works of art in his lifetime. In his early years as an artist his themes were religious and political. His many paintings of Christ on the cross and Christ's decent from the cross speak of his deep sorrow at "Man's inhumanity to man". They are raw in their beauty.

He leaves behind an extraordinary collection. An auction of his paintings will be held in Spring or Summer of 2023 in support of The Artist Sanctuary in Red Wing, MN. It was here, at the Artist's Sanctuary, that he had recently rented space and was intending to begin working on large 6'x8' canvasses again. He was also eager to buy a litho press and begin teaching and making lithographs with his art community.

Guy had the special ability to change his viewpoint when presented with compelling new evidence, almost always. He was a human who evolved and updated new content to his brain even to the last days of his life. He had amazing curiosity and was an insatiable reader. He loved history, novels, anything really, with a particular fondness for the newly released book section at the library. For years he read 3-5 books a week.

Guy discovered the Boundaries Waters Canoe Area Wilderness at the invitation of his son Andy in the early 1990's. He loved his experiences canoeing and later kayaking in the BWCAW. There were many BWCAW trips with his son, male friends to the wilderness tranquility. This experience led him to embrace the Minnesota Land Trust Program and he became an advocate and site observer for the organization.

Guy was an animal lover and a stray animal magnet. Somehow the dogs, cats and even birds knew where he was and always showed up at his home for help. Many of Guy's beloved dogs showed up at his home as strays, or were taken in when their owners could not care for them. He also took on the roll of "Designated Socialization Animal Visitor and Treat Deliverer" to a friend's farm animals when he headed south for the winter. He would trek to the farm in his bright red winter coat with bags of treats and stomp out to the winter enclosures to visit with miniature donkeys, horses, sheep, goats and pigs. He loved these visits. Guy was also known to form relationships with a pet tortoise and serenade a particular parrot with his trumpet!

Guy was married to Judith (Bahr) for 50 years. Together they raised Andy, Kara and Jennie, welcomed many animal grandbabies into their fold and two grandchildren, Tristin and Shante'. They rescued many animals and reunited them with their owners whenever possible. They lived in White Bear Lake, MN and Red Wing, MN. In 2013 Guy and Judith divorced. Judith lived with undiagnosed early onset frontal temporal dementia and the disease progression changed Judith's personality as it changed her brain. Guy made a move to the Jordan Towers in Red Wing, MN and continued his Red Wing friendships, arts groups and participation in many bands. He also began his traveling adventures.

Guy and his sidekick, Molly the dachshund, took many road trips across the US and Canada. They went several times to Florida to see his good friend Glenn. They also went West to see family and friends in Oregon and Washington state returning home through the Canadian Rockies. Picture this, Guy and Molly tucked up snug in a hammock tent strung between two trees at a roadside campground next to the railroad line with the sound of trains waking them in the early morning.

Guy was welcomed to "The Next Big Adventure" by the many people and animals he loved in his lifetime who have already crossed over. Gram had the coffee ready and the caramel pecan rolls were hot from the oven. There is Joy in Heaven!

Guy was a caring person with a giving spirit. Even in his passing, Guy has chosen to help others by participating in the University of Minnesota Medical School's Anatomy Bequest Program, which supports high quality education for future health professionals and continued advancements in medical care through research.

Recent Tributes

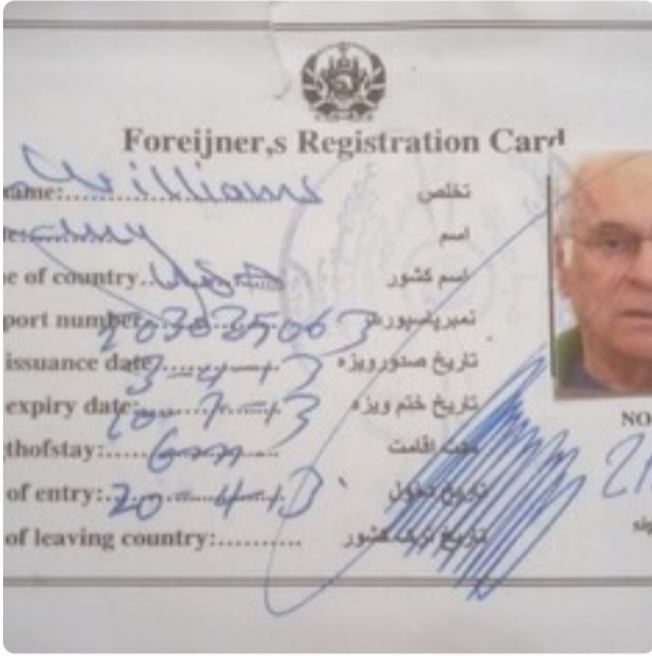


Glenn Anderson February 21

Guy and I were classmates in the painting department of the Minneapolis School Of Art (now the Minneapolis College Of Art And Design) and shared a studio there 62 years ago. We were two of the few students that were married at the time and a... [read more](#)

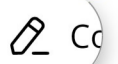
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His Life



Guy F. Williams



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Guy F. Williams

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Recent stories

Missing Guy

March 16 by [Kathryn Rynders](#)
on behalf of Tom Rynders

Guy, you are missed! Everyone whose life you touched from Minnesota to Afghanistan is missing you.

You and I spent hours together driving to band at Century College, an hour each way. I learned a lot about you growing up in International... [read more](#)

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Some remembrances from his cousin Chris Engen

March 2 by [Christian Engen](#)

Jeff (Guy) was my nine-years-older cousin; he was half a generation ahead of me; a good age to be a mentor, and example, and encourager to me; and those things he certainly was during my high school and college years.

One memory I have is that... [read more](#)

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Afghanistan

February 21 by [Reggie Buresh Buresh](#)

Guy was a delightful storyteller, and one of my favorite tales was of his visit to Afghanistan with a couple of other musicians... goal being to spread goodwill via music. The Taliban was in charge, the conditions were tough, it... [read more](#)

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forever missed

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