



## Stephen Miller

May 4, 1927 - March 7, 2012

Stephen Miller, 84, of Merriam, KS, passed away Wednesday, March 7, 2012 at Garden Terrace of Overland Park. Funeral services will be at 3:00pm Thursday, March 8, 2012 at The Louis Memorial Chapel, 6830 Troost Avenue, Kansas City, MO 64131 with burial to follow at Mt. Carmel Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests contributions to the Alzheimer's Association, Garden Terrace or [codajazzfund.org](http://codajazzfund.org). Mr. Miller attended the High School of Music and Art in New York. He served in the U.S. Navy during WW II as a member of the U.S. Navy Band. Afterward he received a full scholarship to Juilliard School of Music where he earned his BFA degree. He came to Kansas City to play in the Kansas City Philharmonic, and also received an MFA from Kansas City University and taught private lessons in piano and trombone. During that time playing piano, he formed several combos which developed into his own orchestra groups. They played at many clubs, private parties, tea dances, weddings, bar/bas mitzvahs. His band was featured at the Ballet Balls, Jewel Balls, Lyric Opera Balls, and BOTAR balls. His group was also featured at a Cabaret Concert with the KC Philharmonic. Steve also made several recordings. In 1992 the Steve Miller KC Band was selected to represent Kansas City at the World's Fair in Seville Spain. Mr. Miller was preceded in death by his parents, George and Helen Miller and brother, Reuben Miller. He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Dr. Dolores Miller of the home; sons and daughters-in-laws: Edward and Karen Miller, Sierra Madre, CA; David and Esther Miller, Beit Shemesh, Israel, sister-in-law, Betty Miller, Long Island, NY; brother-in-law, Rabbi Bernard Barsky, Dayton, OH; sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law: Rosalie and Steve Fein and Judy and Niles Corson, all of Overland Park; grandchildren: Georgia Miller, CA; Sarah and Bracha Miller, Israel and many nieces and nephews.

# Comments

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“ To the Miller Family,  
We are all saddened to learn of Steve's passing. We at Vaccaro Piano always enjoyed talking and working with him. He was always upbeat, helpful with all his students, and we loved to hear of his concerts, parties, and orchestra. We will miss him, and may his memory be a blessing.  
Morty Rock-Mgr.

**Morty Rock** - March 17, 2012 at 04:47 PM

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“ I first met Steve Miller in the 1970's when he played for various dances in the Kansas City area. My late wife, Eleanor, and I loved his music. When we celebrated my retirement in June 1989, we hired his combo to play for our dance. She and I also taught ballroom dancing, and always included dances by the Steve Miller Band in the dance calendar we gave to all of our students. In this way we became aware of his health problems in recent years. He his an honored place in our lives!

**Dr. Will Adams** - March 16, 2012 at 05:25 PM

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“ How well I remember Steve and Warren gabbing about big band arrangements, WD loaning a few over the years.  
we were on the way to hear him the evening of the Hyatt but my visiting daughter said she wished to visit a friend that evening sooo we were sitting out on our patio. I sent at least 5 family sympathy cards after that and our two couples who were best friends were in the ballroom that night. whew, luck intervenes. Fondly, Jan Durrett

**Jan Durrett** - March 16, 2012 at 04:27 PM

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“ Dr. Delores Miller;  
Sorry for your loss. Your husband was a very good musician and our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Fondly;  
Marianne

**Marianne Katz Kessler** - March 16, 2012 at 02:09 PM



“ I was very sad to hear the news of Steve's passing. My heartfelt condolences to the Miller family. I will always remember him fondly. Steve's son Eddie and I played music together for years. Steve was an inspiration to me to continue my musical career to this day. He set a good example for me on professionalism and quality in the music business.

**Andy Morantz** - March 16, 2012 at 12:13 PM

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“ I believe that Steve & my Dad, Maynard Cohen often shared morning walks around the neighborhood. He gave my parents countless hours of enjoyment with his music. So sorry for your loss

**Gayle (Cohen) & David Shechter** - March 16, 2012 at 10:48 AM

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“ Uncle Steve

You have had a wonderful life as a musician. I remember my first concert you performed at JCCC. Riki and I were dancing to your tune.  
We will never forget you uncle.

George martin

**George and Kelly Martin** - March 15, 2012 at 02:34 PM

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“ Eddie and Family

We were so sad to see that your Dad has passed away. Susan and I would see him at functions once in awhile and he always said hello. In between sets. He did alot for this city and he and his music will be missed.  
If you need anythis don't hesitate to contact us.  
Our deepest sympathy to the family.  
Rob and Susan Pittell  
Miriam Pittell

**Rob and Susan Pittell** - March 14, 2012 at 01:58 PM

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“ Delores and family I am so sorry for your loss. I've know your family since I was a kid as I was bff and neighbors with your cousins Paula, David and Rick Pener. Steve and his band played at my wedding and for this "Sadie" it is almost 25 years. With deepest sympathy, Nancy. "Death leave's a heartache no one can heal; love leave's a memory no one can steal."

**Nancy Cosner Kohn** - March 12, 2012 at 05:12 PM

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“ So sorry to hear about the passing of Steve Miller. I have many happy memories of Steve and his music at community events. He brought joy to many people. Sincerely, Madeline Silver

**Madeline Silver** - March 11, 2012 at 10:25 PM

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“ Dear Delores, Ed and David. So sorry for your loss. Our love goes out to you at this time. Carolyn, Ed and Julianna

**Carolyn Plitt** - March 09, 2012 at 04:47 PM

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“ Steve's passing marks the end of an era for the Kansas City music community. He was a fine musician and bandleader, as well as a true gentleman. I had the privilege of playing piano for many of Steve's engagements over the years and it was always a pleasure working with him. My condolences to the family.

**Craig Smith** - March 09, 2012 at 10:53 AM

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“ Dear Delores, Eddie, and David,

So. Many years. of friendship, piano lesons, sharing so many things. Steve will be missed by so many for the wonderful joy of music that he brought to everyone.

I'm in California and will not be able to attend the funeral. My deepest sympathies to all of you. He. Was a special friend to so many.

David, I truly wish that I could see you and say "hello." Scott is in Ann Arbor and I know he would love too hear from you.

Love,  
Jackie Silberg

**Jackie Silberg** - March 08, 2012 at 06:53 PM

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“ Thankyou steve for the pleasent menories.I will always remember the joy you brought to the the world.

**Sandy Nadlman** - March 08, 2012 at 05:32 PM

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“ Thanks to Steve, and singer Angelo Garcia for playing at my Father's funeral. My father played drums for Steve for a number of years, until my father retired in the early 90's.

I have many fond memories of Steve, he even taught me the basics of playing a trumpet.

I can say my life was enriched by knowing the Miller's.

Go in peace, Steve,

Respectfully,  
John M. Castro

**John Castro** - March 08, 2012 at 04:37 PM

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“ Mr. Millers long and productive life touched a lot of people in very positive way. Jesus makes a comforting promise that he is going to keep for such like ones. John 5:28,29.

**Ronald O. Hill** - March 08, 2012 at 03:08 PM

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“ We are so sorry for your loss. We have so many wonderful memories of Steve and the band.It was such a bright spot in our past. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family.

**Mike and Sharron Perryman** - March 08, 2012 at 01:46 PM

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“ Dear Family,  
I am so sorry for your loss of a very dear, Gentleman.  
Steve and his orchestra played for my daughter's wedding many years ago. He was so nice to deal with and the music he brought out of the orchestra was superb.  
Such a wonderful person, with a beautiful smile.  
May your good memories stay with you.

Marna Dolginoff

**Marna Dolginoff** - March 08, 2012 at 12:53 PM

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“ Delores, I was so sorry to hear of Steven's passing. I have wonderful memories of his great music. I have lovely memories of us at Junior College. Please give my condolences to Rickie and all of your family. Be Well.

Janet Planzer Price

**Janet Price** - March 08, 2012 at 10:16 AM

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“ I feel privileged to have known and performed with Steve Miller for the time that I did in Kansas City. His quiet spirit and charming personality will be remembered by us all. May you feel comfort in knowing that he will forever remain in our hearts and in our music.

**Ava Gardner** - March 07, 2012 at 07:11 PM

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“ We are so sorry for your loss. We have always said that we won the lottery having neighbors like you and Steve and Beverly and Jerry. Our thoughts are with you and your family.

**Russ & Nancy Olsen** - March 07, 2012 at 06:33 PM