

Lynn's Roast and Toast



I will always remember Lynn for...

Rogue Valley Country Club

Friday, May 24, 2013

I will always remember Lynn for...

his charming chastisement of the sopranos, the mimicking of how we were not to sing, and his incredible ability to sing a bass part or a soprano's line on key and at will. Lynn is a treasure and I am so thankful I have had the pleasure and privilege of knowing him!

~ Mark Pedersen

believing we could sing better, accomplish more, set higher musical goals than we ever imagined; and he could help us reach those goals.

~ Ross and Kathleen Davis

his ability to introduce 80+ singers to the most unusual songs, ditties, melodies, lyrics, tunes, harmonies, canons, etc., etc. that have ever been written or imagined! A few examples that come readily to mind are: "du bing, du bang, du bong" (Bernstein); "Old Joe has gone fishing and has found him a shoal" (Britten). The bewildered singers would begin rehearsals with skepticism and dread but end up six weeks later completely converted to the pieces and singing them with gusto! I've seen it again and again!

~ Charlene Fike

I will always remember Lynn for...

his superb direction, quick sense of humor and compassion.

~ Maureen Vega

his brilliant musicality and his priceless wit. I love his passion, yet sensitivity toward music and life. Yet, I will also remember the novel methods in which he used to "inspire" the soprano section. We tried to tell him, "It's not us, it's the Tenors!"

~ Tina Pederson

unexpectedly cracking me up! ~ Ellen Murray

his wry, humorous and insightful spontaneous comments. His low voice, his low-key and caring, but firm, remarks at rehearsals. Fat ankled altos. Trilling and sliding sopranos. Basses with eye-balls buried in the score (I plead guilty as charged) "I could walk away and you'd never notice I was gone." I have commended Lynn as a master of the wit of correction. I so commend him again. And of course his inimitable off the cuff introductions in concerts. He made us laugh. He made us think. But most of all, he made us sing. We will notice he's gone, when he hands off the baton.

~ Peter Yeager

I will always remember Lynn for...

enriching my life with the adventure, joy and thrill of singing, and also for the line "The lark is not a 300 pound bird..."

~ Marjorie Overland

the way he sculpts sound.

~ Rod Alfsen

his witty, clever, hit-the nail-on-head, funny sense of humor; his artful interpretations of the music we've done; and his great patience with us all. We love you Lynn!

~ Carol J. Jacobs

his smile and genuine humanity.

~ Barbara Moore

his friendship, amazing energy, passion for music, a sense of humor that made us laugh and the desire to take the Chorale to Europe. His amazing gifts and talents as a musician and masterful conductor. His recognition of the 'voice' within each musician. His commitment for forty years to the Chorale and community and the vision of an organization where children of age seven to seniors of eighty-five plus could sing.

~ Beth Gibson

I will always remember Lynn for...

being so impressed in 1955 when I heard a great choir at Lebanon High School under his direction, teaching together in the Medford music program for many years, being a little peeved at me for using literature for the sophomore choir that he had planned for the senior choir, spinning out on the ice on the way to a conference in Eugene, chaperoning the knock-out choir to the Music Educators Conference in Seattle, chaperoning the choir to a midnight concert with headliners Ella Fitzgerald, Oscar Peterson, Joe Pass and the Count Basie Band in San Francisco; and delegating me to patrol the hallways in order to keep the kids 'safe' in their rooms.

The privilege and opportunity to sing all the great works of the world's greatest composers under his direction in over 300 formal concerts during 40 years. I cry every time I hear the Durufle Requiem, especially the great climax in the Sanctus when the heavens open up and there is God in all His glory—just to name one moment of ethereal ecstasy. And though we are both a bit older, I am sure we will continue to find a way to express ourselves in the wonderful art form of music.

~ Carroll Graber

I will always remember Lynn for...

asking altos to sing like (they have) fat ankles!

~ Barbara Hewitt

his humor and his extraordinary compassion.

~ Laura Rich

his irreverent and hilarious imitations of us singing badly: scooping, wobbling, or unfeeling deadpan rendering of the most beautiful and meaningful passages, a memorable way to show us what not to- do. Definitely one-of-a-kind, he gets away with saying the most outrageous, funny, even insulting things and "brings the house down". It's that amazingly facile and ironic wit. Apart from the impromptu stand-up comedy of Monday nights which I will miss, Lynn is the kindest, most compassionate and understanding human I know. His generosity of spirit is huge. He has been generous with his pocketbook as well, but it is his generosity with his time and attention that is rare. Anyone can give away money, but it takes real kindness and compassion to give away time. He's definitely one-of-a-kind, and his like won't pass this way again. I can hear him saying to Doris: "This sounds like my obituary".

~ Jeanie Saint Germain

I will always remember Lynn for...

"I know you trust me, you need to know that I don't always trust you! Look up from your folders once and awhile to see if I'm still here conducting!"

~ Spence Webber

is that, in addition to letting RV Chorale sing Bach's mass in B minor, he has also been a darn good bridge and tennis partner.

~ Mary Jo Bergstrom.

introducing me to Bach in high school (Christ lag in Todesbanden, Cantata No. 4), the same year my family had a German exchange student, who also sang in the choir. ~ Chuck Watson

his love of music, sense of humor, passion for sharing and devotion to his craft.

~ Lin Holland

teaching us to appreciate the artistry of the music. We perfected the technical aspects of each piece we would perform, but we were always left with a recognition of the composer and the meaning of the music. With this, we learned to understand the art, and the life, of what we heard.

~ Michael Wing

I will always remember Lynn for...

his confidence in me as one of the 'guest' conductors for the 2004 Christmas concert! It was a wonderful experience. ~ Julia B. Lester

saying, "I'm directing better that you are singing!" ~ Donna Daniels

trying to reel us all in after our "club" period. We had choir right after, and there were days it was, shall we say, disruptive! My favorite memory was in 1976 when we recorded an album. I still have it and am proud to have been a student of Lynn's. ~ Tina Mickelson

providing me with fantastic musical opportunity.

~ Kathy Gordon

the great job he has done to keep the music going for the Rogue Valley Chorale and the faithful leadership he has shown since I've known him... so about 50 years give or take.

~ John Hunter

bringing such beautiful music into my life, setting high standards, believing we could achieve them and hearing him say nearly 48 years ago "When the notes go up you go up and when the notes go down you go down!"

~ Rebecca Webber