



**Valentine Armstrong**  
**March 5, 1936 - May 12, 2014**  
**Member and Loving**  
**Mother**



*James and Valentine Armstrong*

Dear Friend,

As many of you may know, our Executive Director Lillian Armstrong has struggled with the illness of both her mother and father over the past couple of years. Sadly, her father passed last Father's Day and her mother Valentine "Val" died just one day after Mother's Day. Val struck me as a woman who would always do things with style. She was quick-witted and spun a great story. I will remember her Southern charm and sweet use of words. She shared many CU members' love for oysters and her daughter's love of cats. She fancied a number of animals, especially birds, giraffes and snakes. She

and her husband Jim fostered an appreciation of animals in their daughter Lillian for which we can all be very grateful.

We extend to Lillian and her brother Jim all our best wishes that the wonderful memories of their parents will sustain their spirits for many years to come.

We're sure Lillian would appreciate hearing from a number of you at this most challenging of times. Cards may be sent to Lillian Armstrong, 12B Fourth Ave., Cape May Court House, NJ 08210.

Sincerely,

Jane Morton Galletto  
Board President on behalf of the entire board

*Below are a few details of her life and funeral services.*

Valentine M. Armstrong, 78, of Clermont  
NJ died on May 12, 2014

Valentine McMillan was born in Rocky Mount, NC, on March 5, 1936. She graduated from Rocky Mount High School in 1954 and from St. Mary's Junior College in Raleigh, NC in 1956. She married James Armstrong in Rocky Mount on December 22, 1956. Val and Jim remained married for 56 years, until Jim's death last summer.

A gifted soprano, Val loved to sing. She was a member of The Masterwork Chorus in Morristown and Angelus Chorus in Cape May Court House, and was always a faithful choir member at any church she attended. Her life-long commitment to volunteerism included being a docent at the Smithsonian Institute, where she taught children about the steam locomotive, always ending with a pull on the whistle, and being a docent at the Morris County Museum, where she shared her love of animals, especially snakes. She volunteered for New Jersey Audubon and the Cape May Bird Observatory at their nature stores in Bernardsville and Goshen respectively, and was a member of the Brookside Women's Club. An avid bird-watcher, she

and her husband were frequent visitors to the hawk watch at Cape May Point State Park.

Val was also an active member of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Morris Plains, and after moving to Cape May Court House in 1997, she was active at St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Stone Harbor. She served on the vestry at both churches, and was Senior Warden for several years at St. Mary's.

She is survived by her children, James, of Foster City, California, and Lillian, of Cape May Court House.

A memorial service celebrating her life will be held at St. Mary's Stone Harbor on Monday, May 19th at 11:00 am. Visiting with her family will begin at 10:00 am and a reception will follow in the Parish Hall. All are welcome. In lieu of flowers, the family requests contributions to St. Mary's Stone Harbor or the Cape May County Animal Shelter in honor of her beloved cats, Jupiter and Saturn.

**CU on the River!**  
<http://www.cumauriceriver.org>

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