



Susan Brainerd

August 23, 2021

Susan Brainerd leader in the arts community was 82

Susan M. Brainerd, a career development officer who built community support for the New York Philharmonic, the American Ballet Theatre, and Big Apple Circus and most recently as deputy director of the John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art, died here Aug 23 at age 82.

In her last position she led the campaign to finance the restoration of Ca' d' Zan, the historic home of John and Mable Ringling.

After her retirement from the Ringling Museum she became active in arts organizations such as the Hermitage Artists Retreat where she served on the Board and Key Chorale where she sang for a number of years.

Ms. Brainerd grew up in Macon, GA, attended Oberlin College and Conservatory before graduating from Smith College. She later earned a doctorate in education from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. She taught there for three years.

Ms. Brainerd is survived by her husband, Alan Quinby, her daughters, Judy Brainerd Roth (Jack) and their two sons Jack Jr. (Amy) and Ian Roth (Katie Sorell); Beth Brainerd (Tim Hiebert); by her sister Ann Maxwell (Kathie

Marsh), her brother Bert Maxwell III (Mardi), and two nieces and a nephew and their families; and by stepchildren Jeffrey Quinby (Claudia) and their three children, Berring, Sophia, and Gracie; Allison Quinby Schmidt (Jim) and their children, Joe, Inge and Libby; and Melissa Quinby (Jay Stabile); and former spouse Lyman Brainerd Jr.

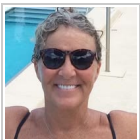
In lieu of flowers contributions can be made to The Hermitage Artists Retreat or Key Chorale.

Tribute Wall

JQ

“ I want to send my condolences to the family of Susan and to Alan Quinby. I met Susan at the wedding of my niece Claudia Quinby to Jeff Quinby!! I was fond of her the day I met her and Alan !! Spent several Holidays together with them throughout the years !! She was a exceptional strong and giving lady ! She and Allen so supportive of there families and grand children ! I admired who strength and positive through out her cancer struggles! She was a trouper and a fighter ! She will be terribly missed in our family and my prayers for Allen and family ! May she Rest In Peace 🙏🙏🙏 Amen. Jeanae Paul

Jeanae Paul Aunt to Claudia Quinby - August 29, 2021 at 02:41 PM



“ Susan Brainerd changed my life in a wonderful way: she was the one who hired me out of a field of 200+ people for the position of Communications Director of the Ringling Museum in 1993. She loved that I was a New Yorker and had attended the High School of Music & Art in Manhattan. She backed me in every single project I devised for community outreach programs and brought her own powerful energy to each one. I shall never forget what I owe her as she changed the trajectory of my life -- and that of the Museum by creating the position and the entire department itself. There was no marketing being done whatsoever but she recognized and changed that. I shall dearly miss her! May her memory be a blessing to us all.



Barbara Linick - August 27, 2021 at 06:34 PM