



CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF  
***JENNY LEE MERCING***



  
**SMITH**  
FAMILY FUNERAL HOMES  
CELEBRATING LIFE

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**MARCH 4, 1954 ~ JANUARY 4, 2020**

## Miss Me But Let Me Go

When I come to the end of the road  
And the sun has set for me  
I want no rites in a  
gloom-filled room  
Why cry for a soul set free?  
Miss me a little-but not too long  
And not with your head bowed low  
Remember the love that  
we once shared  
Miss me-but let me go  
For this is a journey that  
we all must take  
And each must go alone.  
It's all part of the Master's plan  
A step on the road to home  
When you are lonely and  
sick of heart  
Go to the friends we know  
And bury your sorrows in  
doing good deeds  
Miss me but let me go.

Jenny Lee Mercing, born in Tulsa, Oklahoma on March 4th, 1954, was the third child of Wesley and Elsie Dugger, preceded by Sherri Woods and Paula Sue Cathcart and followed by Leslie Coburn and Sam Dugger.

The family moved to the Wakefield neighborhood in Little Rock, Arkansas when she was 10 years old. She graduated from McClellan High School in 1972 where she was a member of the Highlander Choir and the Lads and Lassies select ensemble, cementing her lifelong infatuation with performing. She married John Dean in 1974 and birthed her twins Chris and Cindy April 6th, 1978. She divorced John in 1981. While working at Orbit Valve she met and married Larry East who legally adopted Chris and Cindy in 1983. They divorced in 1994. Cindy gave her a granddaughter, Aiyla East, in 2003, to whom she was wholly devoted and loved dearly.

She began studying at UALR, but had to drop out, eventually finishing her Bachelor of Business Management, Summa Cum Laude in 2011 while working for Mark Samuelson at Progressive Construction.

She began singing bass with the local Sweet Adelines chapter, Top of the Rock, in 1988, also serving as their Treasurer for most of her time as a member. She loved performing and competing in numerous regional and international competitions, both as a member of the entire chorus and with numerous quartets, enjoying traveling to the various host cities and meeting fellow members from around the country and the world.

Thanks to Andy and Rochelle Holt, she met the love of her life, Terry Mercing, in 1994, and they married in 1995. He shared her love of barbershop, also singing bass and leading the local chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society, Acapella Rising.

They eventually bought a few acres in Mayflower, Arkansas where she was able to fulfill her dream of designing the perfect house for hosting family gatherings. She spent almost 25 years singing and traveling with Terry: the best years of her life.

She lost her battle with cancer early in the morning of January 4th, 2020. She acquitted herself well, fighting till the end.

*But be contented when that fell arrest  
Without all bail shall carry me away,  
My life hath in this line some interest,  
Which for memorial still with  
thee shall stay.  
When thou reviewest this, thou dost review  
The very part was consecrate to thee:  
The earth can have but earth,  
which is his due;  
My spirit is thine, the better part of me:  
So then thou hast but lost the dregs of life,  
The prey of worms, my body being dead;  
The coward conquest of a wretch's knife,  
Too base of thee to be remembered.  
The worth of that is that  
which it contains,  
And that is this, and this  
with thee remains.*

*Sonnet 74, Shakespeare*