

Muriel



words and music by

Edward G. Vater

Edward G. Vater - Muriel

Edward G. Vater (b.1923), my dad, is quite a remarkable man. A lifelong-resident of New Britain, CT, he was an educator by profession, and served many years as a school teacher and later as a college administrator. But he has had numerous, diverse interests and taken on many challenges over the years, including raising three children with his loving wife Anne (Mickey) Siton Vater, building a house, studying the Russian language, teaching English to Russian immigrants, working as a tool and die maker summers to support his young family, and serving his community in various roles such as Democratic Town Committee member, Justice of the Peace, and Chairman of the Public Works Department, to name a few. Displaying a life-long love of music, he was heavily involved in school music programs as a child, and loved to sing and play saxophone and clarinet. He played alto saxophone in dance bands during his stint in the U.S. Army Aircorps in England during WWII and stateside after returning home, often in groups with his two brothers, Al and Bob. He still sings and plays his horn most days, still infusing his music with tenderness and passion.

Recently, at age 93 and dealing with metastatic melanoma but still independent, Ed moved into an apartment in Arbor Rose, an independent-assisted living facility. Upon hearing him sing his song *Muriel*, Denise Lebrocquy, one of the administrators there, arranged to take Ed to a professional music studio (Matt Berky, Massive Productions, LLC, Rocky Hill, CT) to make a recording of him singing the tune, for which he had written the music and lyrics. This was a beautiful and uplifting experience for him, and one for which I too am very grateful. The audio file is posted on the NSM website. John Pratt, Jerry Gleason, and I entered the melody, chords, and lyrics for *Muriel* into a music notation software program for publication of the lead sheet on NSM, so we can share my dad's moving love-song with our website visitors and pay tribute to a wonderful man and a life well-lived.

—Carol A. Vater, December 21, 2016

Ed Vater wishes to give thanks and dedicate his song *Muriel* to the Jerome Home/Arbor Rose health complex at 975 Corbin Avenue, New Britain, CT, and to health care providers everywhere.

Our goal at Noteworthy Sheet Music is to provide contemporary compositions, novel music transcriptions, and facsimiles of rare historic scores of outstanding quality at reasonable cost. Musicians' concerns are of primary importance to us when we prepare parts, scores, and facsimiles. We strive for accuracy, clarity, and convenient formatting.



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(Ballad)

Musical score for the ballad "Muriel" by Edward G. Vater. The score is written in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a 6/8 time signature. The melody is accompanied by guitar chords. The lyrics are as follows:

Why can't I re-mem-ber your name? Is
this some cruel sort of game? But your beau-ti - ful smile, man-ners and style, will
al-ways be etched in my brain. A dear friend told this poor fool to try the al-pha-bet
rule. But the A - B - C's did-n't help me; I still couldn't re-mem-ber your
name. Till one day, out of the blue, your i-mage came float-ing through. And be-
fore it could flee, it whis-pered to me, the name I so want-ed to hear. Mu-ri - el.____
Mu-ri - el.____ My mem-ory might fail, but my heart will pre-vail. I'll al-ways re-mem-ber
you. Mu-ri - el.____ Mu-ri - el.____ I'll for - e - ver and e - ver love you.

Chords: D, A, E7, A, A, F#m, D, E7, F#m, D, Bm, E7, A, D, Bm, E7, A, D, E7, A, D, E7, A, D, A, E7, A.

Tempo marking: *rit.* (rhythmically) over the final two lines of the score.

Muriel
by
Edward G. Vater

Why can't I remember your name?
Is this some cruel sort of game?
But your beautiful smile, manners and style
Will always be etched in my brain.

A dear friend told this poor fool
To try the alphabet rule.
But the ABC's didn't help me;
I still couldn't remember your name.

Till one day, out of the blue,
Your image came floating through.
And before it could flee, it whispered to me
The name I so wanted to hear.

Muriel. Muriel.
My memory might fail
But my heart will prevail.
I'll always remember you.

Muriel. Muriel.
I'll forever and ever love you.