



**Llewellyn Henry Cox, III – born 21<sup>st</sup> February 1952 – died 17<sup>th</sup> April 2024 in Dublin, Ireland**

Born into a family that settled in Madison, Mississippi in 1861, Henry excelled at the piano as a teen studying two summers at Brevard Music Center in North Carolina, then performing the Grieg & Prokofiev piano concertos with The Jackson Symphony and the Grieg with The University of Mississippi Symphony at age 17. He graduated from Madison-Ridgeland High School, Class of 1970, was its Valedictorian and stayed in contact with several fellow classmates for over 50 years.

At Millsaps College, Henry was a member of Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity, The Millsaps Singers, The Troubadours, Omicron Delta Kappa Honorary Society and served as National President of Eta Sigma Phi (Classical Languages Honorary).

After graduation from Millsaps, Henry obtained a Master's Degree from The University of Mississippi, followed by an MBA Degree from Tulane University where he served as Vice President of the Business School Student Body. He worked in commercial real estate in New Orleans and the Washington, DC markets until 2002 when he retired and then pursued entrepreneurial projects for his family and served on various arts boards including The Georgetown Symphony (Washington, DC); The Rehoboth Art League (Delaware); The Clear Space Theatre (Delaware); The Delaware Arts Alliance and finally, the National Opera Center in New York City. His church work included numerous roles at St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Lewes, Delaware; St. Luke's Episcopal Church in East Hampton, New York; St.

Thomas Episcopal Church Fifth Avenue in New York City; and finally, St. Patrick's National Cathedral (Anglican) in Dublin, Ireland where he resided the last years of his life. He and Michael were major supporters of the Irish National Opera, and supported University College Dublin Choral Scholars, and Chamber Choir Ireland. He served on and was a major contributor to the Capital Campaign to raise funds to build an Anglican Pilgrimage Centre in Santiago de Compostela, Spain for Camino walkers which opened successfully in 2023. In Dublin, he and Michael were active members of The Kildare Street and University Club, The Royal Irish Yacht Club, and The Hibernian Catch Club. While in the U.S., he and Michael were members of the The Toledo Club (Ohio), The Cornell Club (New York City) and The National Arts Club (New York City); as well as patrons of The Metropolitan Opera, The Glimmerglass Opera Festival, The St. Thomas Choir School, Creative Oundle for Organists (in England) and Chelsea District Library's Music in Air (Michigan).

The two persons who most influenced his life were fellow Mississippians Leontyne Price and Lewis Dalvit, Conductor of The Jackson Symphony. Ms. Price inspired him to dream big and aim for excellence. Mr. Dalvit inspired him to nurture aspiring artists.

Henry met the enduring love of his life, Michael, in 2013 at a concert in Washington, DC. Both were smitten and married the following year on 27<sup>th</sup> September 2014 in Stamford, Connecticut. They lived a life together filled with respect, admiration, and devotion – a true example of unconditional love. The joy they found in each other was contagious, and those who were privileged to share in that joy are blessed and better for it.

Their homes in Southampton, Manhattan, and Ireland were always open to family, friends, musicians, composers, artists, and writers. He and Michael commissioned music for cello and flute, and for chamber choirs; they sponsored concerts, events, and concert series, along with commissioning art pieces for their collection. Henry thrived on helping artists in all fields; he delighted in connecting people to opportunities and each other.

He is survived by his husband, Michael D. Kunkel of Dublin, Ireland; his sister, Charlotte Cox Morrow (John) of Overland Park, Kansas; his uncle Roy B. Price (Barbara) of Mobile, Alabama and nieces, nephews, cousins and very dear friends.

In lieu of flowers, perhaps consider a U.S. tax-deductible contribution to the Irish National Opera by donating through The Ireland Funds America by contacting Rory MacIntyre on [rmacintyre@irelandfunds.org](mailto:rmacintyre@irelandfunds.org) or +1-917-946-7261. Donations from Ireland can be made directly to the Irish National Opera by contacting Aoife Daly on [aoife@irishnationalopera.ie](mailto:aoife@irishnationalopera.ie) or +353-85-260-3721.

After his cremation next week, there will be a Choral Evensong with Remembrance at St. Patrick's National Cathedral (Anglican) in Dublin, Ireland to be scheduled, most probably at the end of May. The service will be live-streamed and a link will be sent once the date has been confirmed.

Irish Prayer by Henry Scott Holland

Death is nothing at all. It does not count.  
I have only slipped away into the next room.  
Nothing has happened.

Everything remains exactly as it was.  
I am I, and you are you, and the old life that we lived so fondly together  
is untouched, unchanged.  
Whatever we were to each other, that we are still.

Call me by the old familiar name.  
Speak of me in the easy way which you always used.  
Put no difference into your tone.  
Wear no forced air of solemnity or sorrow.

Laugh as we always laughed at the little jokes that we enjoyed together.  
Play, smile, think of me, pray for me.  
Let my name be ever the household word that it always was.  
Let it be spoken without an effort, without the ghost of a shadow upon it.

Life means all that it ever meant.  
It is the same as it ever was.  
There is absolute and unbroken continuity.  
What is this death but a negligible accident?

Why should I be out of mind because I am out of sight?  
I am but waiting for you, for an interval, somewhere very near,  
just round the corner.

All is well.  
Nothing is hurt; nothing is lost.  
One brief moment and all will be as it was before.  
How we shall laugh at the trouble of parting when we meet again!