

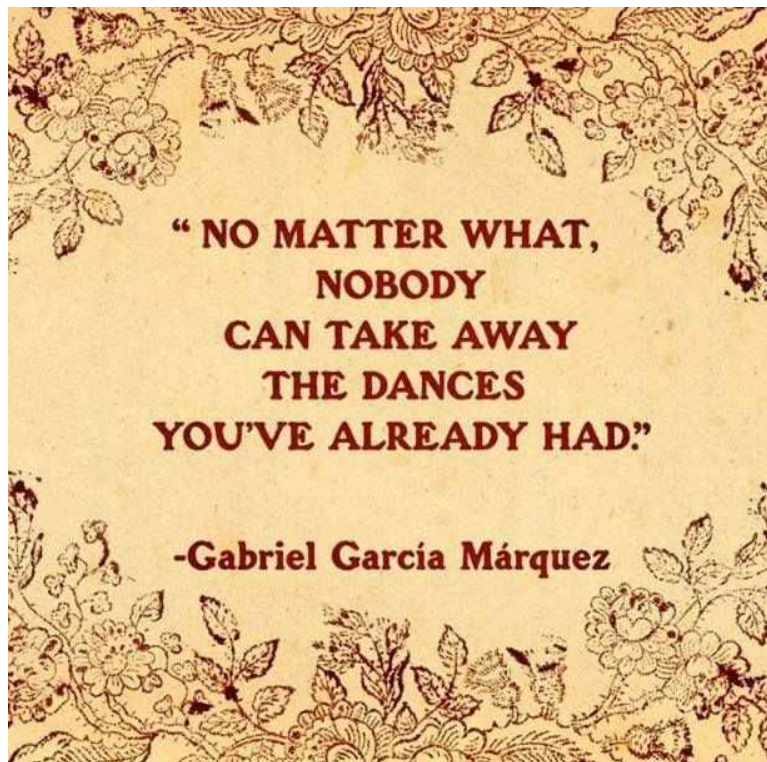
DANCERgram

December 8, 2020

*Joys
Concerns
&
Sympathies*

This publication is a sub-set of the *DANCERgram*, which provides Square and Round Dance news for the West Coast of Florida AND is the official Newsletter of the West Coast Square & Round Dancers Association (formerly the *West Coast Dancer*).

JOYS



CONCERNS

Jerry Story Update December 8 @ 1:00 p.m.

Out of respect for the family, I have intentionally kept my posts a little vague. However, Kristy knows how much the square dance world loves Jerry, so she would like everyone to know exactly where everything stands.

As many of you know, Jerry, for several years, has had trouble with poor circulation in his legs. Several weeks ago he started experiencing severe pains in his leg. He went to the local ER, and was diagnosed with severe blockage. He was transferred to the ICU unit at University of Iowa Hospital for treatment. He eventually had several stints inserted into his leg. After several more days, he was released to go home.

On Thanksgiving weekend, Jerry started experiencing severe chest pains. Again, he went to the local ER and again was transferred to the ICU unit at University of Iowa Hospital. After an EKG, it was determined that he had suffered a minor heart attack. More tests ensued, and it was determined that there major blockages in the blood vessels around his heart.

The prognosis was that he needed a heart by-pass. He had a triple by-pass on Thursday, December 3rd. The surgery was successful. However, on Friday, Jerry started experiencing severe pains in his leg again. He was given an MRI to determine the degree of blockages. Either during, or immediately after the MRS, Jerry suffered another minor heart attack.

At this point, Jerry became ritually ill. He became non-responsive on Sunday morning. His blood pressure dropped to dangerous levels and he was placed on a ventilator. The blockages in his leg were creating a strain on his heart, and the surgeons determined that the only recourse was to amputate his leg. Even after this procedure, he remained unresponsive and was given little chance of survival.

But.....Jerry is a fighter!!! He survived the procedure!! On Monday, his blood pressure increased to more normal levels, and the doctors were able to start decreasing the amounts of medication that he had been receiving.

As of this morning, his blood pressure remains steady and the doctors informed the family that he is taking 400% less medications than the day before. He is starting to breathe on his own, and assuming that he continues to improve, he will have a plastic surgery on his amputated leg on Wednesday to better allow him to be fitted with a prosthetic later on.

He is not out of the woods yet, and he remains in guarded condition, but he is showing small improvements every day.

I do not have the words to tell you all how much your support, love, and prayers have meant to the Story family. I am sure that when this is all over, an Jerry is back home, you will hear directly from them.

In the interim, please respect the privacy of the Story Family at this time and do not try to contact them directly. I will continue to update everyone regularly.

Tony Oxendine

SYMPATHIES



REVISED Word was just received that **Dick Stephens** passed away the evening before Thanksgiving. He was in the hospital but was released back to his facility, and he stopped eating and even getting out of bed. Hospice was called in on Tuesday the 24th. The family had a good visit with him on the 24th, but he still wouldn't eat or drink. He was evaluated and they started to make a plan but that night his blood pressured dropped dangerously low yet again. Around 1:00 a.m., they called and said his blood pressure was again dangerously low. The family went over to see him, and while they couldn't rouse him, he seemed stable, so they went back home. He passed at 4:30 a.m. It was peaceful and he didn't suffer pain. He just declined must faster than the anticipated.

He turned 91 on November 2nd.

If you would like to send cards to his son, Rick, his address is 15717 Jericho Drive, Odessa, FL 33556.

Dick and his late wife, Betty, were treasurers of the Bay Area Twirlers (BATS) and West Coast Fall Fun Fest registration chairmen for many years, presidents of the West Coast Square and Round Dance Association (1992-93), Fall Fun Fest Chairman (1995), and recipients of the West Coast Association Distinguished Service Award in 1995. They were members of BATS, danced at Temple Twirlers and Strawberry Square, and attended many Florida State Square and Round Dance Conventions.

The DANCERgram magazines are written and published by a square and round dancer concerned about preserving our dance activity. The magazines include *Planner* (weekly), *This & That* (monthly), *Joys, Concerns, & Sympathies* (as needed), and *Directory* (as needed). All of the magazines are under the DANCERgram banner. In the event of new information between publication dates, notification is sent via the *Flash*.

The Editor reserves the right to edit any submission to the DANCERgram magazines. Opinions expressed in any DANCERgram magazine are not necessarily those of the Editor or the West Coast Square and Round Dancers' Association. All new information (since the previous issue) in these magazines is highlighted in yellow.

Distribution of the DANCERgram magazines is encouraged via forwarding or hard copies. All of the Magazines, as well as additional content, can be found at www.dancergram.com.

If you would like to receive the DANCERgram Magazines via email or you would like to submit information to any of the magazines, please contact the Editor at sqdnrcfan@gmail.com or 863-224-3393.

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DANCERgram Magazines

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