



## Alzine Straub Cuppett

May 17, 1927 - August 24, 2012

Alzine Marie Straub Cuppett, Founder & Artistic Director Emeritus of Cuppett Performing Arts Center in Vienna, VA, died peacefully Friday, Aug. 24th at her home in Haymarket, VA. During the span of her 50-year career, Mrs. Cuppett was mentor and role-model to thousands of students who shared her love of dance and the performing arts. Mrs. Cuppett, age 85, is survived by her six children: Candace Cuppett Payne of Gainesville, VA; Joyce Cuppett Miller of Annapolis, MD; Reid Thomas (and Kelli) Cuppett of Key Largo, FL; Gary Michael Cuppett of Leesburg, VA; Gregory John (and Bonnie) Cuppett of Haymarket, VA; and Amy Cuppett (and David) Stiverson of Centreville, VA. She is also survived by her 16 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren. Viewing Visitation will be at Pierce Funeral Home, 9609 Center St, Manassas, VA 20110, on Sunday, Sept 2nd from 3 to 7 PM, with Rosary and Prayer Service at 5:30 PM and Eulogy at 6:00 PM. For more info and directions go to [www.piercefh.com](http://www.piercefh.com). Funeral Mass will be held at Holy Trinity Catholic Church, 8213 Linton Hall Rd, Gainesville, VA 20155, on Tuesday, Sept 4th at 10:30 AM. Interment at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church Cemetery, 101 Findley St, New Baltimore, PA 15553, at 5:30 PM.

The family is asking that in lieu of flowers, please make donations to the Alzine Straub Cuppett Memorial Scholarship Fund established for performing arts students. Please make checks out to said Fund and mail to Cuppett Performing Arts Center, 135 Park St. SE, Vienna, VA 22180. Remembrance donations can also be made to one of Mrs. Cuppett's favorite charities, House

of Mercy, 8170 Flannery Ct., Manassas, VA 20109, 703-659-1636,  
[divinemerccynow.org](http://divinemerccynow.org)

# Tribute Wall

DB

“ While I didn't grow up dancing for Mrs. Cuppett, I always wanted to. All of my friends took dance at "Cuppett's" and I so envied them. When my daughters became students at CPAC, I understood why everyone always referred to Cuppett's with an emotion akin to awe. Mrs. Cuppett built an amazing business that feels like home. She hired and trained a staff that welcomes every student and makes him or her part of the CPAC family. There is a place for everyone at CPAC and, chances are, Mrs. Cuppett knows that student's name. I remember watching Mrs. Cuppett at one of our first dress rehearsals after joining CPAC. She was always busy - sewing costumes, lining up young dancers, demonstrating an element of staging, or instructing parents on washing ballet slippers or making a proper bun. I was amazed that she was still so involved and so sharp - she never missed anything! Mrs. Cuppett touched the lives of everyone who knew her with her radiant smile and kind words. I am honored that our family had a chance to participate in her 50th Anniversary recital and be a small part of her CPAC legacy. She will be greatly missed. She is with her Lord now and her spirit will be dancing forever. We love you, Mrs. Cuppett!!

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**Denise Bilidas** - March 29, 2013 at 01:59 PM

TE

“ Reid, I'm so sorry to hear of your loss. God bless you and your family at this very difficult time.

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**Tina Ellis** - March 29, 2013 at 01:59 PM

AG

“ I remember her as a woman of quiet grace and deep, genuine warmth. The only person that could scold Gregg and get a huge smile from him at the same time. Her inner strength and caring nature has made many lives better by her being a part of it. Mrs. Cuppett was the that rare type of person that this world needs more of. She will be greatly missed.

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**Alan Gastrock** - March 29, 2013 at 01:59 PM

KC

“ I began dancing at CPAC in the fall of 1983, when I was entering 7th grade. At Cuppett, I was primarily a tap student, with the occasional jazz class thrown in. Two of my fondest memories are the year Mrs. Cuppett was my tap teacher and our class was held in the basement studio of her Vienna home, and the year we performed "Singin' In The Rain" using practically the identical tap choreography Gene Kelly made famous in the movie.

*I left CPAC after graduating high school in 1989, but continued to dance in college. It was my years at Cuppett that fostered a love of dance that continued to grow. I am now 41 and still taking dance classes, even more than when I was a child. My preferred music for tap is Broadway showtunes because that is what I danced to at Cuppett. I am so glad I had the chance to speak with Mrs. Cuppett at the ballet this past May and to tell her that I am now, finally, taking ballet class! When I told her that I am still dancing, she said, "Yes, and we'll never stop." Losing Mrs. Cuppett feels like losing an important part of my childhood, but her legacy lives in former students like me who will never stop dancing.*

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**Karen Clendenin** - March 29, 2013 at 01:59 PM

EJ

“ You are my cousin, but I loved you like a sister. I will always cherish our time together . . . childhood days in Johnstown and later in life.

*We will miss you, Eleanor and family*

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**Eleanor Jacobus** - March 29, 2013 at 01:59 PM

LT

“ Reid - very sorry to hear of you mother's passing. She was a special lady.

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**Lon Tschetter** - March 29, 2013 at 01:59 PM

BH

“ Reid,

*We were so sorry to hear of the loss of your Mom. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.*

*Bob & Leslie*

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**Bob & Leslie Haughney** - March 29, 2013 at 01:59 PM

KL

“ Dear Greg and Family,  
*I am sorry for the loss of your Mother. Her very dear friend( Aunt Peg was my godmother, so I always got to hear about the Studio and her students and her children. My mom and dad knew Alzine too as she was in my dads class. Aunt Peg would bring me to your house as a child and Alzine was always very sweet to me.*

*Sincerely,  
Kelly*

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**Kelly Nees Lotti** - March 29, 2013 at 01:59 PM



LJ

“ I am so sorry to hear of Mrs. Cuppett's passing and so sorry as well, that we did not hear of it until just now. Such a tremendous loss for all of her family and for all those whose lives she touched. I know that she left a footprint on the hearts of all my girls and really our whole family. She touched the lives of so many and was such a wonderful role model and mentor. I could not begin to thank her for all she was to all of us. Please know that all of you are in our thoughts and prayers. love, laura jones

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**laura jones** - September 10, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Cuppett Family,  
Sending you my heart felt sympathies. Mrs. Cuppett will always be in our hearts. She was such a caring, loving lady. She made dance a joy, for a little girl "Happy Talk" that led onto years of dance love to share with my daughter. I am so happy that Mrs. Cuppett was a part of my & Nicole's life. She will be missed. I know how difficult this time is for you and I wish you comfort in knowing that she has gone home to be with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Peace & Love, Donna and Nicole Buffington. "I thank my God every time I remember you." ~Philippians 1:3

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September 02, 2012 at 12:00 AM