

Chamber Music with Friends

After entering Purdue University, I searched for people with whom I could play chamber music. I immediately found a lady named Maude Ogle, the wife of an engineering professor. We played together frequently. This led to some informal performances at the Purdue University.

I then made the acquaintance of a graduate student named Ron Goldner and began giving him violin lessons once a week. His wife Judy was a fine pianist. Every Saturday, I would visit the Goldner's apartment to give Ron a lesson. Judy would always serve a delicious lunch which was a rare treat for a bachelor graduate student. I also learned that in the downstairs apartment was a very good cellist Marti Kanin. Eventually the three of us started playing piano trios. One I remember was the Archduke Trio by Beethoven.

In 1961, Marti Kanin moved to a beautiful house outside of town which was located in a wooded ravine. Marti, Judy and I began to play in a great room which overlooked that ravine. In August of 1961, we gave a program there featuring two Beethoven Trios (program copied below from a page I found in my archives).

In the next few years, the three of us departed Purdue and West Lafayette to pursue our careers. But for many years afterwards, we continued to stay in contact with each other. Marti joined the New Orleans Symphony in 1971 and retired in Indianapolis. She died on July 13, 2023, five days after her 94th birthday.. I am still in touch with Judy who now lives in Massachusetts where she enjoys playing music with friends. Her husband Ron tragically died in 2013 after a distinguished teaching career of more than 40 years at Tufts University.

