

*A Memorial Service and Celebration of Life for*  
*Vic Juris*

*Sunrise*  
*September 26, 1953*

*Sunset*  
*December 31, 2019*



# Order Service

## **Prelude**

- Diane Moser, Piano and Ed Alstrom, Hammond Organ  
Manha de Carnival (Luiz Bonfá) - Taulant Nehneti, Guitar

## **Processional**

You Raise Me Up (Løvland/ Graham) - Amanda Barise, Vocal

## **Welcome**

Rev. David Noble

## **Hymn #43:**

On Eagle's Wings (Michael Joncas) - Nicole Zuraitis, Vocal

## **Remembrance**

Dave Liebman

## **Scripture Reading:**

JoAnn Scheuermann - Lamentations 3:1-26, 31-33

## **Poem**

Do Not Stand at My Grave and Weep (Mary Elizabeth Frye)  
- Tynia Thomassie

## **Musical Selection**

Kate Baker and Vic Juris

## **Homily:**

Rev. David Noble

## **Passing the Peace**

Hymn #753:

Make Me Channel of Your Peace  
- Richard Lissemore, Vocal

## **Remembrance**

Dave Stryker

## **Congregational Song**

Hymn #66: Every Time I Feel the Spirit

## **Blessing**

Postlude: Mayaguez (Vic Juris)

Vic's Students

Allan Bezama, Ilan Eisenzweig,  
Ben Weise, and Benjamin Samuelson

# Remembrance Quotes

“The loss of Vic Juris has been overwhelming for all of us. To say that Vic was a great jazz guitarist is, and was, an understatement, maybe because he was continually greater as a human being. He certainly left an incredible mark on the history of our instrument with his love.” -Pat Martino

“I first heard Vic with Barry Miles around 1975 when we were both just starting out. Right away, he became one of my favorites. He sounded fantastic in any situation no matter what the context. He was a great straight-ahead player but had the kind of open ears and imagination to be able to address virtually any playing environment, not only with excellence and depth, but with an identity of his own - you always knew it was Vic playing. And it was no surprise that he sounded amazing - he was a beautiful person. I always learned from him whenever I heard him. He may be one of the only people on any instrument who had totally absorbed Lieb’s harmonic vocabulary and was free inside that world like no other. With that kind of insight combined with his already deep pocket and great sound - it was everything all in one place & I remained even more in awe of him as the years went by. We will all miss Vic, and there is a huge space in the realm of creative music left in his wake.” -Pat Metheny

“Vic Juris was as good a jazz guitarist as one could be but his talent as a human being exceeded even that. I always loved Vic and thought he was one of the kindest, most open and thoughtful people I knew as well as a superb musician. He will be greatly missed.” -John Scofield

“It is utterly impossible to say only a few words about our friend, Vic Juris. As a man, he was sweet, humorous, very humble, without ego, and without an evil bone in his body. Vic was a passionate teacher of the guitar who taught his students the value of being honest to the music and to oneself. His musical ability was stunningly brilliant every time he picked up his instrument. Vic Juris’s musical breath was astonishingly deep, no matter the style. His mere presence made any musical ensemble rise to new heights! His musical consistency was valued by all of us. I will miss all he has given me, especially the musical surprises he dropped on all of us! All who were fortunate to make music with Vic will never forget his musical essence. We are all better for having Vic in our lives.” -Rufus Reid

“Vic was a superb player and teacher and one of the kindest souls; a rare combination.” -Paul Simon

“I consider my personal and musical relationship with Vic to be among the greatest gifts of my life. For over 30 years, each day I spent with him he helped me become a better person and musician. I’m eternally grateful that we found each other on this journey. His spirit will always be with me.” -Jay Anderson

“I will miss my friend and the music.” -Adam Nussbaum

“There was no one more real than Vic, both as a musician and a person. His sense of humor, honesty, sweet nature and musical skills were legendary.” -Dave Liebman

“I had the good fortune to have Vic Juris as a friend the last 20 years. Besides being one of the best guitarists ever, Vic was dedicated, kind, compassionate, smart, funny, occasionally salty, and an inspiration to the many peers, fans and students that were lucky enough to cross his musical path. While we will miss Vic, his music and legacy will live on.” -Dave Stryker

“Vic’s life was full of love and inspiration. He was inspiring to all of us who had a chance to know and create music with him. Even though his untimely passing has saddened our community, we will continue to celebrate his Life Force for generations.” -Joe & Judy Lovano

“Vic was a bright shining star in The New School community. For thirty-three years he was possibly the most sought after teacher, virtually every guitar player here studied with him at some point. While his teaching was built on his immense musical talent, it was deftly delivered with kindness, honesty, and his keen wit. He’ll be missed more than he could ever imagine, but he’ll continue to be heard through the music of the hundreds of fortunate students he mentored over the years.” -Keller Coker, Dean, The New School of Jazz & Cont. Music

“On the bandstand Vic lifts us all up. In the classroom ‘Prof’ Juris inspires his students to find themselves. As a man his spirit resonance shines with brilliance. Forever ...” -Conrad Herwig, Head of Jazz Studies, Rutgers University

“At times, it seems that when we suffer a great loss, we somehow also gain some measure of enlightenment as a result. With the passing of Vic, this seems to be one of those times. As great a musician as he was and as kind a heart as he had, I am drawn to his ever-present humility and his caring for the other guy. I will always be grateful to Vic for showing me, and perhaps many in attendance today, what really matters in life. Thank you, Vic, for making us all better people by showing us the way to be.” -Dr. Todd Coolman

“Vic was one of the most omnipresent figures on the scene when I got to New York in 1989. Every single guitarist I worked with from Pat Metheny to John Abercrombie to Mark Whitfield always spoke so highly of him. I was always sad that our paths never crossed more often because he was one monster of a player who I deeply respected. We will miss him. My heart goes out to Kate and all of Vic’s loved ones.” -Christian McBride

“When Vic taught us it went far beyond the music. He guided all of us with love and enthusiasm. Vic’s legacy will live on not only in his music, but in our hearts and memories of him that we hold so dearly. Vic was the coolest.” -“Vic’s Boys” (students)



## *A Message From Kate*

*If I know one thing and one thing only, it is the power of the human spirit. This precious gift must be held sacred. It is the one thing that defies science, medical convention and gives us gifts that surpass anything monetary. It is what keeps us connected and makes us feel the miracle of love.*

*I am so grateful to all of our friends and family for making Vic's farewell most special and meaningful. I want to thank Rev. David Noble, Ed Alstrom, Paul Wickliffe, Tynia and Dave, my family and special friends and our students, who gave so much of their time.*

*A very special thanks to our amazing neighbors Samuel and Karen Stewart for their beautiful help with programs and printing.*

*Our family thanks you.*

