

VON TRAPP FAMILY

Agathe Johanna Erwina Gobertina von Trapp (1913 to 2010)

Solo career and retirement

In 1956, Agathe left home to pursue a career with a friend, Mary Louise Kane, starting a Kindergarten in Stowe, Vermont.^[2] In 1958, they moved to Maryland and started another kindergarten there, at the Sacred Heart Parish in Glyndon, Maryland.^[3] Agathe and Mary Louise Kane worked together for 37 years. In 1993, they both retired.^[27] Agathe continued to be busy in retirement. She still painted, and one of her paintings is displayed at the Austrian Embassy in Washington, D.C.^[27]

Throughout her life, she made many water color paintings and crayon etchings, most of which she sold. Her artwork illustrates a cookbook of family recipes^[3] and "The Trapp Family Book of Christmas Songs", written by Father Franz Wasner, the priest and family friend who had directed the Trapp Family Singers.^[28] She decorated wooden bowls and was good at carpentry, making some of her own furniture for her house.^[28]



The Trapp family rehearsing before a concert, near Boston, 27 September 1941.

Death

Agathe died on 28 December 2010, aged 97, at the Gilchrist Hospice Care in Towson, Maryland after suffering congestive heart failure.^[29]

SO LONG, FAREWELL: VON TRAPP DAUGHTER DIES AT 97.



Maria and 'Liesl' in 1946

Von Trapp family member dies

Agathe Von Trapp, whose family was the inspiration for the classic 1965 film "The Sound of Music," has died at 97 in the Baltimore suburb of Towson, said a longtime friend.

According to an Associated Press report, Mary Louise Kane said Wednesday that Agathe (AY'-gah-thah) died the previous day of congestive heart failure at a hospice. The two lived in Glyndon, Md., and ran a kindergarten at the Sacred Heart Catholic parish.

Von Trapp was the oldest daughter of Austrian naval officer Capt. Georg (GAY'-org) Ritter von Trapp. His seven children by his first wife were the basis for the singing family in the 1965 musical.