

ANN HENRY was born in 1924 in Chicago, Illinois, the daughter of James and Jean Henry. It was in New York City, however, that her career in dance flourished, and she appeared in three Broadway shows, in the Metropolitan Opera House, as well as in television. Ann danced with her Co-Op Company and was creator of the modern dance jazz technique. Words such as choreographer, singer, music arranger, organ orchestrator, director, designer, artist... all have a place in describing the amazing career of this musician! Later, in a quite different setting, from 1964 to 1974 Ann Henry was a composer in residence at Mount Angel Abbey in Oregon. Here she shared her musical expertise with both monks and seminarians, composed five Masses, and for the dedication of the Mount Angel Abbey Library on May 30, 1970, Ann composed music which she and seminarians performed with Edward “Duke” Ellington. In more recent times Ann made her home in Portland, and here she formed the People’s Choir which served churches, schools and events including weddings and funerals in Portland and beyond. Ann Henry passed away on August 27, 2023. Mount Angel Abbey was a very special place to her, a spiritual home, and it was here that her Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated. She will be buried at Mt. Calvary Cemetery in Portland. Ann was a Benedictine Oblate of Mount Angel Abbey.

