



Patrick Prescod, the musical genius who blessed the world with the hymn “The Right Hand of God” and inspired thousands of students of the St. Vincent Grammar School through the school song he wrote, died on Thursday.

He was 81.

*(Watch video of Sean Sutherland playing the Grammar School Song on piano at the end of this post)*

And as news of his death emerged, citizens took to the social networking website, Facebook, to remember the musician who had touched the lives of many in so many different ways.

Sean Sutherland, himself a celebrated, international musician who was preparing for a two-day concert on the weekend, wrote, “Today SVG has lost one its finest musicians.”

Dexter Rose, the nation’s envoy to Cuba, said Prescod, who was commonly known as Pat Prescod or Uncle Pat, was “one of the most gentle persons I have known.

“Oh what a spirit. ... SVG benefited from his presence among us. Rest on Uncle Pat. At the right hand of God,” the diplomat further said.

Among those paying tribute were also persons he had taught music, with varying degrees of success and a former radio announcer at whose wedding Prescod played a decade ago.

Among honours bestowed on Prescod were Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (M.B.E) in 1983 and Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (O.B.E) in 2007.

Among Prescod's notable achievements was his founding of the Kingstown Chorale in 1956.

He graduated from Trinity College of Music in London in 1962 then returned to St. Vincent and the Grenadines, where he resumed directorship of the Kingstown Chorale.

He was music officer for SVG between 1963 and 1987 and served as adjudicator for music festivals, as well as steel band and calypso competitions.

He was Regional Coordinator for Caribbean Church Music from 1978 to 1980.

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He was among three Vincentians who received the Lifetime Achievement Award in New York last December from the Internet-based group, VincyCares.

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player\\_detailpage&v=8ceGJTg7J6g](http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_detailpage&v=8ceGJTg7J6g)