



Mary Ann McArthur

DEC 24, 1939 - NOV 11, 2023



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Mary Ann Thornton McArthur, 83, of Belleair, FL, died November 11, 2023. Active in many areas of the community, her proudest roles were those of wife, mother, and grandmother. The things she enjoyed most were family activities and travel together, her friends, work, reading, playing bridge, and cooking delicious Southern meals. She measured her wealth by the expressions and actions of love by the members of her family toward each other. By that standard, Mary Ann considered herself to be among the wealthiest people who ever lived.

Born on December 24, 1939, Mary Ann was the only child of Randolph Kenneth Thornton and Mary Elizabeth Hall Thornton, in Albany, GA, and was predeceased by her parents. She is survived by her husband, Gilbert B. McArthur (Gil), to whom she was happily married for more than 61 years; her son, James Caldwell McArthur (Connolly), Belleair; her daughter, Elizabeth Hall McArthur Whiteley (Rich), Tampa; and four beloved grandchildren, James Lightfoot (Jay) McArthur, Belleair, Logan Connolly McArthur, Belleair, John Banks Whiteley, Tampa, and Elsie Hall Whiteley, Tampa.

She grew up in Albany, where her parents were in the hotel and hospitality business. Graduating from Albany High School, she was an honor student and active in student government. Mary Ann graduated from Florida State University in 1962, majoring in hotel and restaurant management, where she was also president of Kappa Delta sorority, captain of the Tarpon Club synchronized swimming team, active in student government and the college of business.

While at FSU Mary Ann met Gil. They were married after her graduation and resided in Clearwater where Mary Ann immediately became immersed in the local community as an active volunteer. She volunteered with Morton Plant Hospital Foundation and soon was honored to co-



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chair with Patti Mulock the first ever Morton Plant Foundation fund raising event, an antique auction. Later she became president of the Junior League of Clearwater-Dunedin.

For twenty years, Mary Ann and Gil served on the original Omelette Party Committee, having been one of the five young couples selected by the event founders to help continue that tradition benefitting then UPARC, now The Arc. During those years, Mary Ann and Gil also co-chaired the annual Morton Plant Hospital Charity Ball.

As their son and daughter were growing up, Mary Ann chose to become active in her own business, becoming associated with then Rodgers & Cummings which later after several mergers became Coldwell Banker. In 2014, she was invited to join the young firm of Coastal Properties Group and Christie's International Properties Group in Belleair, which began another exciting chapter in her successful role in a profession which she loved and to which she brought much talent and skill, working tirelessly with her clients to bring innovative solutions to their real estate challenges. At the same time, Mary Ann continued her volunteer work with community causes she favored, serving on the board of Morton Plant Hospital and later Morton Plant Mease Health Care Foundation. When Mary Ann and Gil moved into the Belleview Biltmore Villas, she again served that new community as president of the condominium association board of directors for five years. Since 1969, Mary Ann was an active member of Episcopal Church of the Ascension in Clearwater. Recently, Mary Ann and Gil were honored to receive The Salvation Army's Dr. William E. Hale Community Spirit Award.

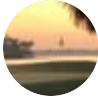
There will be a Celebration of Life at the Episcopal Church of the Ascension, 701 Orange Ave. in Clearwater on Saturday, 23 December at 10:00 A.M. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Church of the Ascension, Morton Plant Mease Health Care Foundation, The Arc, The Salvation Army, or the charity of one's choice



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Jason Welz posted:

Our deepest and most heartfelt condolences to Gil, James, Connolly and the extended McArthur family. Mary Ann was one of the first people we met when moving to Belleair in 2006. She graciously shepherded me through the selection and purchase of our first home in Belleair, as Stacey and the kids remained in VA during our relocation. We've been blessed to get to know her and Gil a little bit over the years and are saddened by her passing. May we all be reunited in Heaven with Mary Ann and her wonderful grace. God bless.

December 21 at 12:21 PM



Marina Kloppel posted:

Our deepest sympathy to Gil and your family. Mary Ann was a symbol of all that is right in the world. A loving wife, mother, grandmother and friend. She was a classy lady who was admired by all her knew her in her profession as a realtor. I feel Blessed to have known her and know she is with our Lord. She will be missed at Coastal. She was an inspiration to all of us. Joe and Marina

December 6 at 7:49 AM



Melody Figurski posted:

I wish to extend my condolences to Gil and her other family members. I met Mary Ann through the Junior League and then the Omelette Party. She was a lovely lady and a dedicated volunteer. Didn't realize until I read her obituary that she and I also had synchronized swimming and student government involvement in common. Will miss her.

November 26 at 4:29 PM



Mary Ellen Wilson posted:

Gil, I am so very sorry to hear of Mary Ann's passing. God Bless you and your family.
MaryEllenWilson

November 26 at 3:47 PM



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MW

Mike Williamson posted:

Mary Ann & Gil have been extraordinarily active in the Clearwater community! She was a delightful lady who never seemed to forget a name and always was very gracious to everyone she met. Her contributions to her family and community will never be forgotten. She certainly did her part to make this world a better place. We extend our condolences to Gil and their family. May she RIP. Jean and Mike Williamson

November 26 at 10:07 AM

MM

Mark Michelman, Md posted:

Gil, Sorry to hear of Mary Ann's passing. Sue and Mark Michelman

November 26 at 7:13 AM

SK

Scarlett Kinley posted:

Mary Ann was the true definition of Grace and was an inspiration to me and my office staff. The many friends devastated by her passing is a testament to her kind and beautiful spirit. You are (and have been) in our thoughts Gil.

November 26 at 4:20 AM

FK

Frank Kowal posted:

I met Mary Ann when I joined Coldwell Banker's Belleair Bluffs office in 1980. She was the managing broker and guided the office successfully, Mary Ann was one smart lady. I had lived abroad for 40 years and traveled extensively. I recall her joy talking about her career as a stewardess with TWA, I seem to recall. New to real estate, she was my mentor and friend. I will miss her drive, enthusiasm, and smile. Frank Kowal Clearwater Beach

November 23 at 4:41 AM

NK

Nick Karay posted:

Gil. I'm sorry to hear about the passing of Mary Ann. Our prayers are with you and your family. Nick and Betty Karay

November 22 at 5:26 PM



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DK

Dell Kelleher posted:

A lovely brilliant beautiful woman who will be missed.Sincere Condolences from, The Kelleher Family

November 22 at 3:59 PM

JH

James Heyer posted:

So sorry for your loss. The Heyers (Jim & Joan)

November 22 at 11:06 AM

LN

Lou Ann Nash posted:

My heart goes out to you and your family Gil! God was good to give us our "Georgia spouses" as long as he did. They are at peace now. Take care of yourself, love you lots. Lou Ann

November 22 at 7:02 AM

MA

Margie posted:

I was saddened to hear about Mary Ann's passing. She was a joy to know and always had a kind word. Margie Bowers Atkinson- MPH team

November 22 at 5:52 AM

JF

Julie Folden December 21 at 4:53 PM

Mary Ann was such a special person in my life. Gracious, witty, charming and a true role model. I enjoyed our friendship for over 30 years. She could defuse the most tense situations with a comment that made all who were present realize the insignificance of an ill spoken remark. Mary Ann was a great negotiator-and exceptional problem shopper.. She was always eager to hear someone's ideas and had a way of making everyone feel special...I will miss her so much.. I know that this world is a better place because she was part of it. God speed and may you rest in eternal peace. Love, Julie Folden

JS

Judith Sullivan December 8 at 5:47 AM

My condolences to Maryann's family. What a lovely woman she was.



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Mary by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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