



## Joan Fretwell Montecino

December 14, 1935 - February 2, 2022

Joan Fretwell Montecino passed peacefully in her sleep on Wednesday, February 2, 2022 at the age of 86.

Born and raised in New Orleans, Joan attended Sacred Heart of Jesus on Canal, married her high school sweetheart and began a family. They moved to Harahan where they became active members of St. Matthew the Apostle Parish. Several years later, they purchased their first home on Shirley St. in Metairie where they raised their family and lived out the next 49 years, among the best of neighbors and friends. Joan was very active at Our Lady of Divine Providence parish, first as a physical education teacher, then a Choir Director, and one of the leaders of the O. L. D. P. "E. Y. O" (not just C.Y.O. but Everyone's Youth Organization). She was a nurturer and became like "another mom" to several young people that were drawn to her. She considered them and so many others through the years, extensions of her family! While singing at church, she was approached by a visitor in attendance that day, he gave her his card, which led to several meetings and launched her Country Music singing career. She performed locally with her band, 'Joan Montel & the Country Sound.' Later, she went on to record several records in Nashville. When illness struck at home, she left her singing career to care for her husband and her mother. She continued her studies earning a degree in Nutrition, then in Floral Design and continued her education becoming a Licensed Master Florist.

Wife of the late Jules Thomas Montecino, "the love of her life," for 53 years.

She leaves behind devoted daughter and son-in law, Jackie & Glen Lapouble, her loving son, Brice Montecino & Beth, and her son-in-law, Joseph Ysusi. Preceded in death by her daughter, Debbie M. Ysusi, also, two sons, Jules T. Montecino Jr. and Ronnie J. Montecino. Daughter of the late Lucy Chabaud Fretwell and John Joseph Fretwell. Sister to the late John J. Fretwell Jr., Patricia, "Pat" her sister-in-law, confidante and best friend, William "Bill" Fretwell & his late wife Manuella. Also the late half sister, Betty, her late husband Warren and Betty's son the late Floyd Eisenhardt, Jr. (Maria), late half sister Diane (Skip) and her 3 sisters-in-law, Virginia "Ginger" Montecino & her late husband, Allen, Laurelyn Verdun and the late Kathy Bigham. Grandmother to Tara Ivey & her husband David, Jennie Benedict & her husband Charlie, David Lapouble & Pennyne, and Jessica Ysusi & Frank Conforto, Jr.

Great grandmother of Genevieve Allen, Kayla Ivey, Heaven Benedict, Hunter Ivey, Natalia Williams & dad, Adam, Love Lapouble and mom, Erica, Riley Lapouble, Nathan Rice, Sawyer Lapouble, Peter Lapouble and Giovanni Conforto. Great-great grandmother "Gigi" to McKenzie Allen. She also had several nieces and nephews who lovingly grew up calling her "Aunt JoAnn." Extended family included but not limited to: the late Adele C. b.f.f., George H., Gary & Jane, Daisy, Bryan, Belinda, Donnie & Liz, David Norman, the late Gerrie N. b.f.f., Josie D. b.f.f., Megan, sweet "Addi", Paul ...)

Joan adored everything Christmas: from carols to decorating, cooking, and baking with her grands for the holidays. She loved Disney World, High-Tea, Chocolate, Starbucks, watching Hallmark in her pj's while drinking hot chocolate with mountains of whip cream, but most of all, SHE LOVED BEING WITH HER FAMILY! She had a zest for life and a pep in her step and genuinely loved connecting with people, that's why it was so sad when Alzheimer's crept up on her. She left her home in Metairie and moved to Kenner with family the past 6 & 1/2 years of her life, then due to Hurricane Ida damage, spent a month & 1/2 of love with the Trager family, and finally to St. Joseph's of Harahan for her last 2 & 1/2 months. We are so fortunate that she

never forgot any of us, even if she did call some of us by another's name, or even when mad, called us something in Creole-French-slang! (Ha ha)  
Faith and Family were the hallmarks of Joan's life and the legacy she leaves to us.

On 2/2/22 this Lady who was just "too-too," slept peacefully as the angels came and ushered her into the Kingdom of our Lord Jesus. She will be missed by so many!

Special thanks to The Alzheimer's Association, Home Instead Senior Care, The Council on Aging (especially Lorraine & Keith), and St. Joseph's of Harahan staff and sweet Lena, her roomie and friend. Thanks for all the love, laughter and friendship you all provided for Mom. Thanks to all our family and friends for your love and support at this time.

A Memorial Mass will be celebrated on Tuesday, April 19, 2022 in the Chapel of L.A. Muhleisen & Son, 2607 Williams Blvd., Kenner, LA from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Visitation will be from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

To share memories or condolences, please visit [www.muhleisen.com](http://www.muhleisen.com)

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR 19. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

L. A. Muhleisen & Son Funeral Home  
2607 Williams Boulevard  
Kenner, LA 70062

## Memorial Mass

APR 19. 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

L. A. Muhleisen & Son Funeral Home  
2607 Williams Boulevard  
Kenner, LA 70062

# Tribute Wall



“ *Joan Fretwell Montecino*

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October 15, 2023 at 09:39 PM



“ *I miss you Mrs. Joan! You have been with me practically my whole life thanks to your generosity in being a Youth Group Advisor in the EYO at Our Lady of Divine Providence. You are in every song I sing and have been so instrumental to me in my music ministry over the years. You had such a love for God so evident in your music, your family, and in your life in general. Your home and your family was my home and my family! I can't even imagine what my life would have been when I was 16 yo, without the abundant love of you and Jules, then, and all these years. We laughed and cried so many times, shared life and just enjoyed one another's company, and chocolate of course. God blessed me with a treasure when you and your family opened the door of your hearts to me. For this I will always be grateful. You can now rest in the arms of Jesus knowing your time on earth touched many lives and brought many to Jesus by your example. May you experience the fullness of the Resurrection as you rest joyfully in the arms of our Heavenly Father. "You will always be a Song in my Heart."*

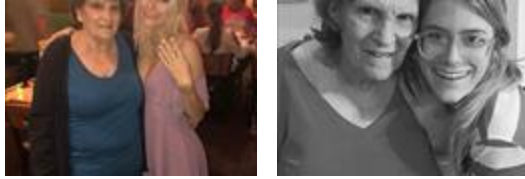
*Daisy Thom*

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**Daisy Thom** - April 19, 2022 at 11:40 AM

HE

“ I'll miss mawmaw joan and forever cherish all the memories, love, laughter, and tears we've shared together. I'm so blessed to have had my great-grandmother in my life ❤️



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heaven - April 15, 2022 at 09:05 PM

MC

“ I had the pleasure of working with Joan many years ago, my life was made better forward as she was always so upbeat, funny and joyful. I know she will be missed.

Mo Crane

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Mo Crane - April 14, 2022 at 07:29 AM

MX

“ So sorry for your loss. I knew Joan well most of the family from working at one of her physicians offices. 1989-2021 roughly. We would always clown around. She was a feisty one. You knew when she and Jules came to the office it was double trouble. She and I would talk about our family. She will be missed but I wanted to let her family know she was a special lady. I can only imagine what's going up in heaven and have to laugh.

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michele. xray - February 15, 2022 at 10:35 AM

AC

“ Loved Ms. Joan  
Always had fun going with Brice to hear her sing country music  
I am very sorry for your LOSS!!

Alan Carter - February 13, 2022 at 02:05 PM

L. A  
Muhleisen  
& Son

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



L.A. Muhleisen & Son Funeral Home - February 11, 2022 at 03:02 PM

JL

I miss you so much momma, I love you ❤️🌹  
After living together the past 6 years, there's not a day that goes by that Glen & I don't miss you! We catch ourselves saying the things you would say at certain times and we look at each other and smile or chuckle. When we go somewhere and get out the car I inevitably go to open the back door and bend my arm at the elbow so you can slip your arm thru mine as we walk side by side together, I feel empty. Mom, you always had a song for me "my special angel" ... now, you're mine! I'm glad you have no more sorrow, no more pain, and you are enjoying time with all the one's you missed so much, Nonie and Daddy, Ronnie & Jules & Debbie. I know there's a huge gathering of other family & friends enjoying time together again, but most of all, I know you're finally embracing your JESUS 🕊️❤️🌹 I can't wait to see you again one day and have you back fully, no more alzheimers, no more pains, just beautiful, wonderful, gifted, full of life, You my momma, with the biggest heart of love for your family & friends! I love you and was blessed to have you as my "Momma" ❤️❤️❤️❤️  
Love Always & Forever,  
Jackie & Glen

Jackie & Glen Lapouble - April 16, 2022 at 02:40 PM