



## Maryann Catherine Crossley Coco

January 24, 1926 - December 24, 2020

Maryann Catherine Crossley Coco, 94, a longtime resident of New Orleans, died Thursday, Dec. 24, after a period of declining health.

Born Jan. 24, 1926 in Chicago to Ann Catherine Hartung Crossley and Elijah Rockhold Crossley, M.D., she was preceded in death by her parents; her daughter, Sandra Ann Coco Simmons; her son, John F. Coco; her stepdaughter, Margaret Elizabeth Coco Powers; her forever husband, Numa F. Coco, Jr., and her loving companion, Donald Martin Serex.

She is survived by her stepdaughter, Martha Jeannette (Jeanie) Coco Friant, Chattanooga, Tenn.; step-granddaughter, Tiffany Lynn Powers Corcoran, McKinney, Texas; step-grandsons Richard Friant, Robert Friant, and John Friant, all of Chattanooga; and Edward Powers, Mendham, N.J.

She attended Florida Southern College and was a lifetime member of Alpha Chi Omega national sorority. She graduated from the Orange Memorial Hospital school of nursing in Orlando, Fla., in 1947. She later received a B.S. in allied health from Holy Cross College and a school nurse practitioner degree from L.S.U.

She worked as a school nurse in Jefferson Parish for five years at Grace King High School and another 26 years at various schools in Orleans Parish. She was active in the Louisiana School Nurses Organization and the National Association of School Nurses, which she served as Louisiana director and on the board of directors. She was actively involved in political efforts to promote and preserve school nurses for Louisiana students. She volunteered at

Children's Hospital and was a member of the Metairie Art Guild. She actively attended Jefferson United Methodist Church for 54 years until it was closed. After that, she attended Jefferson Presbyterian Church until she died. The family is grateful for the loving care given to Mrs. Coco for several years by Debra Dyson and Joanne Bardell of Visiting Angels, who treated her as if she were their mother.

Because of the Covid pandemic, there will be no funeral services. A memorial service will be announced at a later date.

Donations may be made in her memory to Jefferson Presbyterian Church. L.A. Muhleisen and Son Funeral Home is handling arrangements. To share memories or condolences, please visit [www.muhleisen.com](http://www.muhleisen.com)

# Tribute Wall



“ *Maryann Catherine Crossley Coco*

October 15, 2023 at 09:39 PM



“ *Maryann and I were first introduced by my Uncle Don Serex. She opened her home and hospitality to me whenever I came to New Orleans for a visit. I met her son, John, on my first visit as an adult in 1986, and had a great time playing tourist with them. Later, in 2008, I was introduced to friends from Maryann's church and the "Swiss group", which included longtime friends of Uncle Don and my Grandfather, Dr. A. M. Serex.*

*We were able to return the hospitality when Maryann and Uncle Don came out to CA for a visit. She especially liked Disneyland and the Crystal Cathedral in Garden Grove.*

*Maryann and Uncle Don enjoyed many years together, traveling, visiting and hosting friends, worshipping at church. Then, when Uncle Don's health declined, Maryann moved him in with her, and cared for him until the end of his life in 2008.*

*I was always impressed by Maryann's resilience and gusto for life. She was fiercely loyal to her friends and family, and passionate about helping others. She will be missed by many.*

**SHARON PARKER GARCIA** - December 30, 2020 at 12:18 PM



*Sharon, thank you for your kind words! Blessings to you and your family always! Jeanie Coco Friant*

**Martha Friant** - December 30, 2020 at 12:38 PM

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*My deepest condolences for your loss. I had the pleasure of working with Ms. Coco several years ago when she was ready to sell her home in Old Jefferson. She was a wealth of knowledge and our conversations were always meaningful. I still remember her beautiful paintings she created that she was so fond of. She will be missed. Tom Bookhardt, United Real Estate Partners*

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**Tom Bookhardt** - January 06, 2021 at 11:09 AM