



Marian V. Lewis

January 2, 1929 - May 23, 2011

Marian V. Lewis

Obituary

Jan 2, 1929 – May 23, 2011

Our beloved, Marian V. Lewis, a resident of Palm Beach County since 1952, passed away peacefully at her home on Monday, May 23, 2011, after an extended battle with Radiation Heart Disease.

Born in PA in 1929, Marian spent the majority of her life in the great state of FL. Mrs. Lewis served as a highly influential business leader in South Fl. for more than 30 years. As the first female business owner, board member and Chamber of Commerce President, Marian was a maverick paving the road for future development and placement of aspiring career women into leadership positions.

Marian was an amazing mother of three children and still developed her real estate career in 1968 working for one of Southern Florida's largest firms. She was promptly promoted to Vice President, immediately becoming a top producer. Shortly thereafter, Marian opened her own office, Marian V. Lewis Real Estate, Inc.

Marian was elected to the Fl. House of Representatives in 1986 and served

through 1992. She sponsored and successfully passed legislation aimed toward women's health and divorce issues. She also served as Republican Caucus Vice Chair and the Palm Beach County Legislative Delegation Chair. She served on many charitable boards and established the "Tom Lewis Memorial Nursing Scholarship Fund" at FAU, which is self sustaining.

Marian was married to the late U.S. Congressman Tom Lewis, who was also a former member of the Florida House and State Senate. Marian and Tom established a historical milestone being the first husband and wife holding legislative seats simultaneously in the U.S. and State Houses. They were both successful in obtaining funding for State Road US 27 which has, subsequently been named after each of them, "The Tom and Marian Lewis Highway".

Marian's tenacity and outstanding will to live life sustained her for the past six years. Marian is survived by three siblings, Robert Vastine (PA), Nancy Vastine (FL), and Tom Vastine(PA); three children, Mickey Lewis Bowman (FL) and husband, Dick Bowman, Thomas F. Lewis III (PA) and wife, Kristen Lewis, and Nancy Lewis Heins (FL); six grandchildren; and three great grandchildren.

With all the contributions, accomplishments and milestones she achieved, Marian was most proud of her family. She lived an extraordinary life and will be missed very much by her loving family and many devoted friends.

Memorial Services will be held on Sunday, May 29, 2011 at 3:00 PM at Royal Poinciana Chapel; 60 Cocoanut Row; Palm Beach, FL 33480-4010.

The family has requested contributions to be made to Executive Women Outreach, Inc.; Marian V. Lewis Scholarship; 2300 Centrepark West Drive; West Palm Beach, Fl.; 33409. For online condolences, please visit www.taylorandmodeen.com.

Taylor and Modeen Funeral Home
Family Owned & Operated
(561)744-2030

Tribute Wall



“ *Marian V. Lewis*

October 22, 2023 at 10:17 AM



“ *I was very saddened by the news of Marian's passing. My heart broke for Nancy as she told me today. Marian was always living life to the fullest which was so inspirational. She was a go-getter, no matter what, always. I must say, I feel truly honored to have known Marian. I also feel blessed to have been able to share in her life, even if for a brief time. Her smile was contagious and always present. She was a classy, sophisticated lady. My thoughts and prayers are with Nancy and her entire family. I know all too well how hard it is to lose your "Rock" in life. Remember and cherish all the memories in your hearts. God Bless Mary~Total Image Salon, Jupiter, Fl*

MaryAnne Maher - Friend of Nancy & Marian - May 29, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *I was privileged to know Marian through Executive Women and in the political arena. She was a role model of hard work, caring, compassion, and fighting for what she believed was right for everyone. She was one of the early female leaders in Palm Beach County, yet never forgot that her family came first. She was proud of her husband and children and always had something good to say about them. Unlike the nasty politics that exists today, Marian always held herself above that kind of display. My heart goes out to her entire family as I know from personal experience the very painful loss of a mother.*

Nancy Graham - TN - Friend of Marian - May 29, 2011 at 12:00 AM

CC

“ I have been a resident of North Palm Beach since 1980. When Tom Lewis was running for office, I volunteered (lick stamps, etc.) and later when his wife ran for office, I volunteered daily to help her with clerical duties. I agreed with the political philosophy and bills she hoped to pass in Tallahassee, so I gladly gave my time. She was a gracious lady who always thanked me for my time. Later when her "protegee" ran for office, I volunteered to help that lady because Marion said she was honest and agreed with her political philosophy.

North Palm Beach was most fortunate to have both the Lewis' represent the citizens here.

*Sincerely,
Mrs. Chickering, author of the official history of the village of North Palm Beach*

Charlotte Chickerbing - North Palm Beach, FL - volunteer during her campaign
- May 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SF

“ I moved from Palm Beach County 20 years ago, but I thought of Marian, and Tom, so often. Marian was a great friend, a wonderful mentor and one of the kindest souls I have ever known. She was always so encouraging, supportive and humble. She helped so many of us women realize how important it is to balance family and career. She showed the way with style and grace. My deepest sympathy to the family and thank you for sharing her with all of us.

Susan Schuyler Smith - long time firend - May 27, 2011 at 12:00 AM

KF

“ Mrs. Lewis was an amazing woman who was so kind and helpful to me when I began my career in the office of Congressman Lewis. She was an inspiration to me as a young female learning the ropes of the political world. She helped shape me as I developed within the office. I remember when she called me and asked if I would represent the state of Florida as a Cherry Blossom Princess! I was thrilled to do it and with her help had a blast in Washington!! She was always looking out for the young ones in the office! My prayers are with the family now as they go through this difficult time.

Kathy Mee Weekman - Fredericksburg, VA - friend - May 26, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MB

“ I never really had a chance to get to know Marian like I would have liked to, but I've always felt close to her through my husband. Memories that he would recall and share with me have made her a real person in our lives. He has shared the love he felt from her as a child, which he cherished enough to let spill over into his adult life. I remember she was kind. And in a world full of craziness, it's a blessing to find a kind person every now and then. To all of her family I wish you strength and the ability to keep the ones you love close to you; because sometimes family is all you have and all you will ever need.

Michelle Bowman - May 26, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JD

“ I would like to send my condolences to the entire family. Unfortunately, I never had the privilege and honor of knowing Marian but I've been blessed by working with her daughter Mickey. Mickey always speaks so lovingly about her family. Mickey is a testimony to her mom & god. Mickey is such a kind & caring person there isn't anything she would do to help someone. May God continue to cover you in this time of sorrow.

Blessings JoAnn

JoAnn Cavanaugh - Holyoke, MA - Co-Worker of her daughter - May 26, 2011 at 12:00 AM

EN

“ I feel very fortunate to have known Marian Lewis. Being a good friend of Nancy's I had heard wonderful things about her mom for a very long time I had spent little snippets of time with Nancy and Marian at charity luncheons, birthday parties etc. It was not until I went to the First Ladies Luncheon honoring Michelle Obama, as Nancy's guest, did I really have the opportunity to "know" Marian. Last March at that event, her health and stamina were declining, it was noticeable that her fully participating was a challenge. But fully participate she did! What a trooper! She would go until she couldn't - not wanting to miss A THING and did it with bountiful grace and a wonderful attitude. I found Marian to be amazingly in style with her fashions and always genuinely interested in how others were doing. She was a very lovely lady to be around...a lady I was proud and honored to be associated with. Thank you Marian for modeling the joy of life and the grace of a very special woman!

Elaine Donaghue - Ocean Ridge, FL - friend of her daughter Nancy - May 26, 2011 at 12:00 AM