



Mary Portocarrero

August 28, 1932 - November 4, 2023

After a long battle with cancer, Mary Portocarrero's body set her free on November 4, 2023 at her Sarasota, Florida nursing home. She was 91. Her family, whom were with her in her last weeks, were not surprised by the questions of the many nurses and helpers whom she had befriended: "Was she a scientist?" "Was she a teacher?" They recognized and appreciated Mary's every-inquiring mind, and the personal interest and encouragement she offered them.

Mary knew her mind and always exhibited her strength. As a child, she decided that her first name did not fit her, and she changed it over the strenuous objections of her emigrant parents. She grew up on Long Island NY with her sisters Peggy and Elsie and brother Donald, and attended Lindenhurst High School before tackling jobs such as Arthur Murray dance instructor, dental assistant and reading center supervisor. She always impressed with her drive, determination and tact in difficult situations.

She married Luis Portocarrero and they raised three children together in Brentwood, NY and Monroe, CT. Luis passed on at age 40 and Mary never re-married. She worked in accounts receivable departments at a number of corporations, and she volunteered with organizations such as Girl Scouts and the YMCA. She was particularly proud of serving as the first female President of Monroe's sports' booster "Varsity M Club.'

Mary so enjoyed seeing the sun, and she spent her later years in Sarasota, Florida. She reveled in daughter Wendy's artistic abilities, her daughter Toni's way with people, and talking politics with her son Andrew. She cherished and delighted in following the lives of her many grandchildren and great grandchildren and spoke every evening with her beloved sister, Elsie. She will forever be loved and missed by all.