



Mary Gadsden Jaudon Barrus

October 21, 1927 - February 26, 2019

Mary Gadsden Jaudon Barrus, 91, a resident at Westminster St. Augustine, St. Augustine, FL, died there February 26, 2019. She was born in Savannah, GA as the only child to Jean Hay Jaudon, of Scottish ancestry, and William Clifford Jaudon, of French Huguenot ancestry.

The funeral will be at Westminster's Crichton Hall on March 22, 2019 at 2:00 pm. The Rev. Canon Michael E. Ellis will officiate. She will be buried in Laurel Grove North Cemetery, Savannah, GA.

Mary graduated from the Washington, D.C. public school system. She won a full scholarship to American University where she majored in French and won many honors, graduating Summa Cum Laude in 1949. She worked as a Research Analytic Specialist at the U.S. Defense Department (NSA) in Washington for over two years. She met her future husband, Donald S. Barrus, on a blind date when he was a senior at Virginia Theological Seminary, Arlington, VA. They initially lived in Waterbury, CT and spent most of their married life in Florida. She later earned two advanced degrees: M.Ed. in Education (1969) and Ed.S. (Administration and Supervision) (1977), both from Florida Atlantic University.

Mary was a Learning Disabilities Specialist and taught children for nearly 25 years in Hollywood, FL at South Florida State Hospital Learning Center where she was assistant principal; Deerfield Beach Middle School, Deerfield Beach, FL; J.C. Mitchell Elementary School, Boca Raton, FL; and Holiday Hill Elementary School, Jacksonville, FL. She won several awards including

Teacher of the Year. During these times her husband served in nearby parishes as an Episcopal Priest. Later she tutored for over 10 years, fully retiring about age 78.

Mary is predeceased by her husband of nearly 65 years and son, Christopher Barrus. She is survived by three children: Jean Barrus Hess (Dr. Robert), Dorothy Barrus Wilson (Dr. Samuel), William Barrus (Claire Adamson); eight grandchildren: William Hess (Eva Nyizsnyanszki), Christopher Hess, Robert Hess, Elisabeth Wilson, Mary Wilson, Christina Barrus Adams (Wesley), Daniel Barrus, and Emily Barrus Carroll (Blake); and three great-grandchildren: Owen Adams, Emma Claire Adams, and Weldon Adams; and brother-in-law and sister-in-law Robert N. and Kathi Barrus. Mary had a rich relationship with each member of her family. She was loving and attentive to all and had a remarkable memory.

Mary was an active church member and participated in choirs at the parishes where her husband served. She started the choir at St. Francis in-the-Field. She was President of various organizations including the PTA, VP Duval County Retired Educators Association, and more recently President of the Sawgrass Women's Club. She led many groups and was a long-time member of the Scholarship Committee at Westminster St. Augustine. It is a cause which she fervently supported, and she often encouraged others to further their education. She believed in and demonstrated social justice and equality from her earliest days and was progressive. She remained very knowledgeable about current events.

Mary loved to teach, play bridge, and do counted cross stitch. Her children and their families were the recipients of many beautiful, creative, and memorable works of cross stitch art. Each year for many years these included treasured Christmas ornaments that were individually designed and sewn for each family. She became an avid Jaguars fan. Throughout her life she was a knowledgeable, attentive, and committed gardener and had many house plants, while maintaining a beautiful flower garden in her yard.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Westminster St. Augustine

Scholarship Fund, 235 Towerview Dr., St. Augustine, FL 32092; St. Francis in-the-Field Episcopal Church, 895 Palm Valley Rd., Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32081; or to Episcopal Relief and Development, PO Box 7085, Merrifield, VA 22116 - 7058