



## Dr. Mary Jean Martin Stevenson

February 18, 1943 - September 1, 2021

Dr. Mary Jean Martin Stevenson was born on Feb. 18, 1943 and died on Sept. 2, 2021 at the age of 78 in Tallahassee FL. She is survived by her husband, David Stevenson, children Julie Stevenson (Steven) Kurisko and John Stevenson, and granddaughter Rachel Kurisko.

Mary Jean Martin was born in Detroit MI, the second child of Homer and Marjorie Martin. She had one older brother, Rev. John Martin of Grosse Pointe MI. She graduated from Michigan State University and initially worked as a French teacher. Mary and David Stevenson were married on June 26, 1965, and lived in Alexandria VA, Buffalo NY, Irvington NJ and Mayville ND before settling in Tallahassee FL. Mary received her Ph.D. in Instructional Systems from Florida State University in 1982, and enjoyed a varied career focusing on education in multiple formats.

Mary had a well-lived life full of joy, family, friends, faith, learning, theater, music and travel. There was no dog she didn't want to pet, no cemetery with possible ancestors interred that she didn't want to search through. Potluck dinners and canoe trips with family and friends were her glory. Her outgoing nature and organizational skills aided her in genealogical research, membership in the Daughters of the American Revolution and Colonial Dames, participation in the Christian Science church, and political involvement. Throughout her life, she enjoyed patronizing and participating in the arts, and visiting new places. She enthusiastically supported her children in their professional and personal endeavors. After retiring to Westminster

Oaks in Tallahassee, she was able to travel around the world with friends and family, win medals in table tennis in the Florida Senior Games, discuss novels with her book reading group and assist in caring for her granddaughter.

A memorial service was held for the immediate family on September 11, 2021 at Bevis Funeral Home in Tallahassee. A larger gathering for friends and family will be held on a future date not yet determined. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the First Church of Christ, Scientist of Tallahassee FL.

Kelly Barber of Bevis Funeral Home (850-385-2193 or [www.bevisfh.com](http://www.bevisfh.com)) is assisting the Stevenson family with their arrangements.

# Tribute Wall

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“ We knew Mary and David through the Tallahassee Little Theatre, later renamed Theatre Tallahassee. We are so sorry to hear of her death. We saw her at a theatre, possibly TCC, shortly before the pandemic, and as always, she was warm and friendly. She was always positive and uplifting.

*I attended a Zoom meeting earlier this year about a tour to Ireland, and Mary was on it. She seemed eager for the trip, with hopes she might be passing through counties her ancestors lived in because she was interested in genealogy.*

*At one time, we had also lived in Ivrington, NJ and I believe we had a conversation or two about that.*

*Our condolences go out to her family members.*

*Christine and Dennis Reilly*

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**Christine Reilly** - October 19, 2021 at 03:08 PM