



Dr. Elaine Davis Cancelon

March 23, 1939 - July 17, 2025

Elaine Davis Cancelon, born to William and Theodora Davis in Brooklyn, New York, on March 23, 1939, passed away peacefully in Tallahassee, Florida, on July 17, 2025, at the age of 86, surrounded by her children.

Elaine was a proud graduate of Middlebury College and earned her PhD from the University of California, Berkeley. She dedicated her career as a French professor at Florida State University, inspiring many students with her passion for language and culture. A true Francophile, she was an active member of both formal and informal groups that promoted French language and culture. Her deep passion for France and everything French was a defining part of her spirit.

After her retirement, Elaine divided her time between the United States and France, embracing the country she adored. She was a lively, independent spirit- bold and unapologetically herself. She deeply and genuinely loved being in nature, listening to music, dancing, enjoying good food and time with friends, as well as travel and new experiences.

Elaine was deeply involved in her community- driving for Meals on Wheels, helping with political campaigns, and supporting causes she believed in. Her energetic approach to life and her commitment to making a difference left a lasting impression on those around her.

She was preceded in death by her beloved partner, Monique LeGoff. Elaine is survived by her first husband, Paul, and their two children: her daughter, Anne-Françoise Hisle and her son, Claude Cancalon. Her beloved grandchildren, Nicholas, Jack, and Cameron, also carry her memory.

Elaine was truly one of a kind. She lived life on her own terms, full of passion, energy and purpose. Her spirit and love for life will stay with us, and continue to inspire those fortunate enough to have known her and cared for her. She'll be missed more than words can say.

Breanna Green of Bevis Funeral Home (850-385-2193 or www.bevisfh.com) is assisting the family with their arrangements.

Tribute Wall



“ 8 files added to the album Memories Album



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