



Jean Elyse Simpson

March 7, 1926 - June 17, 2025

Jean Elyse Morris Simpson, 99, passed away Monday, June 16, 2025, at the Westminster Oaks Health Center. She is predeceased by her husband, Napoleon Simpson, to whom she was married for 33 years.

Jean was born in San Francisco, California on March 7, 1926, as an only child to Lorene and Leo Morris, who encouraged her to pursue her studies and make her own decisions. It was evident that Jean developed a love for learning as she earned a law degree from Stanford University, attended the London School of Economics to earn a degree in International Law, and followed up with a Master of Art in Religion from Florida State University.

Early in her legal career, Jean was accepted as a first lieutenant for the Judge Advocate General for the United States Air Force, one of only eight women out of the 1,200 members of the Air Force JAG department at that time. She was eventually promoted to full colonel, becoming the first woman to achieve this rank in the U.S. Air Force JAG department. Jean was awarded the Bronze Star Medal and the Legion of Merit in recognition of her 21 years of service.

Jean also had an adventurous spirit and loved to travel. Her travels took her to Russia, Nepal, Japan, India, Mongolia, Zimbabwe, Tanzania, Botswana, New Zealand, Australia and India, her favorite, which she visited seven times.

Jean was a generous and giving person, regularly donating both time and money to charities such as Habitat for Humanity, the Red Cross and Co-Cathedral of St. Thomas More Catholic Church, also where she attended services. She shared her generosity with many friends, every year for her birthday she would treat her friends (up to twenty at a time) to dinner and drinks. Jean will be remembered and missed by many. A memorial celebration of Jean's life will be held at 11:00 AM, Monday, July 21, 2025 at the Co-Cathedral of St. Thomas More, 900 W. Tennessee St, Tallahassee, FL 32304, a reception will be held at the church parish hall following the service. Donations may be made to the charity of your choice. Todd Wahlquist is assisting the family with their arrangements (850-385-2193, www.bevisfh.com).

Previous Events

Memorial Mass

JUL **21**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Co-Cathedral of St. Thomas More
900 West Tennessee Street
Tallahassee, FL 32304

A reception will be held at the church parish hall following the service.

Tribute Wall

LR

“ Jean was a dear friend and mentor. I'm so sorry to hear of her passing. My family and I have fond memories of Thanksgivings and special times enjoyed with her. She'll be forever in our hearts.



Lisa Rubin - February 05 at 03:48 PM

JR

“ In loving memory of Jean Simpson, our last aunt. The first time I met her was while I was visiting Washington, DC while in college. I recognized immediately how and why she was the woman that my Uncle Napoleon chose to be his wife. They were the perfect match. They loved to travel and she continued to visit places that they had dreamed about long after he passed. It was something that she said he wanted her to do. Though the miles separated us, our conversations when we visited and the cards I sent was a cherished reminder of the connection we had. Her strength, wisdom, and stories will always remain in my heart. I take comfort in knowing that you are now reunited with the love of your life (Napoleon). You have left a lasting impact on all of us and you will be missed.

JuaNita "Frances" Davis Reed and family.

JuaNita D Reed - July 15, 2025 at 02:03 PM

BR

“ I first met Jean back in the 1990's when she came up to me at the same church we attended. We became good friends, along with her other neighbors at Westminster. Jean would bring them to Mass. I loved to listen to her amazing stories, along with getting to know everyone and Nape. We would go out to dinner or eat at our homes. When I married my husband, they got along famously as they shared Air Force stories! She was a very loving, giving and generous friend. A trailblazer for women who lived an AMAZING LIFE! May she rest in Eternal Peace and Always in the Light! ✨ She has earned her heavenly ☐ 🦋 - I, we love you, Jean.

Beth Ryan - July 07, 2025 at 04:47 PM