



## Martha Wheeler Maddox

May 25, 1928 - January 29, 2023

On January 29, 2023, Martha Louise Wheeler Maddox took her leave of this earthly world. Born in Valdosta, Georgia on May 25, 1928, she grew up in Tallahassee, graduating from Leon High School in 1946. Martha attended FSU, then-known as Florida State College for Women, where she met and married Emery A. Maddox, a Navy veteran home from the war.

After graduating together from FSU, Martha began her life as a young wife and then mother. She re-entered the job market once her kids were in school and worked at various offices at FSU. Her career was derailed with a diagnosis of lupus at a time when little was known about the disease. She soon found her calling, becoming a staunch advocate for other lupus patients and started the Tallahassee Branch of the Lupus Support Network. Her advocacy was recognized when she received the 2006 Volunteer of the Year Award (Social Services) from the Tallahassee Democrat.

She returned to work when her health allowed. When she was finally forced to retire, she was the administrative assistant to the Director of the FSU Student Union. She loved to tell the tales of the interesting students she met there. In her later years, Martha thoroughly enjoyed being a member of the “Friday Press Club” at St. John’s Episcopal Church. She cared deeply for her lupus friends, her church friends, classmates of the LHS Class of 1946, her neighbors on Amelia Circle, Maddox Road, Glendale, and lastly, at Allegro. She will be remembered by her family for her drive for life, rain-walks, brickle, music-making, and being mom to Kim, Kerry (Rick), Rod (Susan);

Grandmartha to Maggie (Charles), Nolan (Ted), Amelia (William), and GREAT Grandmartha to Emery Margaret. Martha was a force to the end.

Martha was predeceased by her husband of 65 years, Emery, sister Bobbe, and parents Onie and Nick Wheeler.

The family would like to thank her caregivers over the years: Yumico, Robbie, Lucinda, Rhonda, Shon, Judy, and Linda. It truly took a village.

Funeral service will be held at St. John's Episcopal Church, 211 N. Monroe St, Tallahassee, on Friday, February 10th, 2023, at 3:00 p.m.

Contributions in her memory can be made to the Lupus Foundation of America, Inc., 2121 K Street NW, Suite 200, Washington, DC 20037; Big Bend Hospice 1723 Mahan Center Blvd. Tallahassee, FL 32308; and St. John's Episcopal Church 211 N. Monroe St. Tallahassee, FL 32302.

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

# Tribute Wall

NH

“ Like a lot of her generation, Martha was always kind, engaging, and a joy to be around. I miss her already.

Nick Humphress - February 08, 2023 at 09:40 AM

CB

“ Kim, Kerry and Rod We are so sorry to hear of Martha's passing. Emery and Martha both were such good friends with Mom and Dad over the years. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all and May GOD BLESS and watch over you all during the time.

Van and Debbie Buchan Greer Sc.

charles buchan - February 07, 2023 at 11:00 AM

KM

Thank you, Charles. I remember your family well!

kerry maddox - February 09, 2023 at 08:32 PM

PA

“ To Kim, Kerry, Rod, and Maggie, Susan, Amelia, and Rick and all in the embrace-----

Amen to AWM, Amen.

Over the years from early University School days, to all the times we have crossed one another's lives...your strength has now been passed on--for you each to wear in your hearts.

Love,

Peggy Adair

Peggy Adair - February 06, 2023 at 09:21 AM

KM

*Thank you for sharing those memories. Onward!*

Kerry Maddox - February 06, 2023 at 10:46 PM

TP

“ Terry and Beth Anne Posey purchased the Basket of Memories for the family of Martha Wheeler Maddox.



Terry and Beth Anne Posey - February 05, 2023 at 11:27 AM

CR

“ I met Martha when I was learning about Lupus, and she was so kind and generous with her time – pulling out all of the stops to help educate me on the topic. We became fast friends and when I visited she would proudly talk about her grandchildren and show me all that she (and Emery) had done in the yard. On those visits, she also treated me to what felt like private piano concerts – she played magnificently. Although my husband and I moved away from Tallahassee and I had not seen Martha in years, on one of those last trips she gave me a gift – a gift that has kept her present in my heart and memory. That is a night blooming cerise plant that she got from her sister Bobbe. My deepest condolences to the family.



Cheryl Robbins - February 03, 2023 at 03:20 PM

KM

*Thank you for sharing your memories with us. ❤️*

Kerry Maddox - February 06, 2023 at 10:45 PM