



## Mary Evans

October 18, 1946 - May 13, 2023

### Mary Arline Evans Obituary

1946 - 2023

Mary Arline Evans, respected Nashville family law attorney, passed away Saturday, May 13, 2023 following a brief illness.

Mary grew up in Chicago and graduated from Northwestern University with a degree in Theater. She moved to Nashville in the early 1970s and later attended the Nashville School of Law. She went to law school while working full time and raising her young children.

She practiced family law from 1986 to 2022 when she retired. She kept a quote on her refrigerator that read "Service is the rent you pay for your space on Earth." She lived this both professionally and during her retirement. In 1991 she was named the Nashville Bar Association Pro Bono Volunteer of the Year. She volunteered for the Tennessee Breast Cancer Coalition and was a member of the Board of Directors. She was also on the Nashville Bar Association Pro Bono Board of Directors. She played in and volunteered with The Vinny Golf Tournament, was on her HOA Board of Directors, and had recently begun volunteering at the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum.

She was active in multiple professional organizations including the American Bar Association, the Nashville Bar Foundation, the Williamson County Bar Association, the Harry Phillips American Inn of Court, the American Trial Lawyers Association, and the Lawyers Association for Women.

She also enjoyed golfing, exercising, gardening, and singing in the Christ Church Cathedral choir, but her favorite activity was spending time with her grandchildren.

Mary was preceded in death by her parents Franklin and Barbara Evans, her siblings Amy Evans, Geoffrey Evans, and Christopher Evans, and her granddaughter Madeleine Scruggs. She is survived by her sons Jesse Earl Scruggs and Jaime Evans Scruggs (Erika), and four grandchildren Alexander, Lillian, Camila, and Austin.

Services will be held 11:00 am Saturday, May 20, 2023 at Christ Church Cathedral. Visitation will begin at 10:00 am.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY **20**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Christ Church Cathedral  
900 Broadway  
Nashville, TN 37203

## Service

MAY **20**. 11:00 AM (CT)

Christ Church Cathedral  
900 Broadway  
Nashville, TN 37203

# Tribute Wall

NA

“ *I learn so much from Mary I will truly miss her*

*Neil Armstrong*



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Neil Armstrong - June 11, 2023 at 08:37 PM

DD

“ *Dear Mary, You are missed. Your quiet but strong friendship is lost for many of us. I fear you did not realize how we admired your inner strength yet personal softness. You made our community a better place. I love you and thank you for your steadfast love and support.*  
*Deb*

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Deb Dixon - May 21, 2023 at 08:39 AM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mary Evans.*

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May 19, 2023 at 11:02 PM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Mary Evans.*



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May 18, 2023 at 02:55 PM



“ [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was purchased for the family of Mary Evans.

May 18, 2023 at 02:55 PM



“ Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Mary Evans.



May 18, 2023 at 12:04 PM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Mary Evans.



May 17, 2023 at 11:34 PM



“ I practiced with Mary for many years and my office was next to hers for part of that time. Anyone who knew her knew she was a formidable adversary for her clients' interests and they adored her for it. One of them was my own daughter.

Though she could be tough as nails in Court, a Steel Magnolia as one of my partners said, she was a compassionate and kind person. She will be missed.

Philip W. Duer - May 17, 2023 at 02:29 PM

SF

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Sol Farmer** - May 16, 2023 at 03:42 PM

DS

“ *Thinking of Mary and her loving family during this very difficult time. We played golf together and met for many lunches and dinners through the years in Nashville. Her love of family was always the center of our conversations. I am numb and heartbroken to learn of her passing. Sending warm hugs and love to her family.*

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**Debbie and Zack Smith** - May 16, 2023 at 12:06 PM