



Ann Moss Meranus

November 6, 1931 - October 13, 2023

Ann Louise Moss Meranus - (1931- 2023)

Ann Louise Moss was born in Bridgeport, Connecticut, in 1931, the first-born daughter of Harold Krieger Moss and Norma Bluestein Moss. The Moss family was from Bridgeport and Milford, Connecticut. The Bluestein family was from Bethel, Ohio, where Norma's father, (Ann's Grandfather) Simon (Si) Bluestein was the first Jewish President of the Bethel Bank. Eventually the family moved to Cincinnati.

Graduating from Walnut Hills High School, an institution she proudly supported, she went on to graduate from Wheaton College, in Norton Massachusetts, Magna Cum Laude and Phi Beta Kappa. She met her husband Leonard Meranus, a graduate of Harvard Law, shortly thereafter. They had three sons: Norman, Jim and David.

As a young married mother, Ann turned her sights to a newly formed international organization: the Childrens International Summer Villages (CISV). Formed in 1950 by psychologist Dr. Doris Twitchell Allen, CISV was based on a belief that by creating opportunities for children of different cultures to live together, and become friends, that they would grow to be ambassadors for a more peaceful world. Ann immersed herself in its work for many many years, raising funds, traveling with adult groups to Norway,

chairing their 1975 International Convention at Xavier University, and was actively involved in establishing a children's village in San Jose, Costa Rica. A local chapter of CISV is still active on Montgomery Road. Loyal to the end of her life, she personally appeared at their 70th anniversary.

Ann continued, over a lifetime, to educate herself. She taught in Lynn, Massachusetts during her early marriage and continued to do so in Cincinnati in the mid- 50's.

Through Cincinnati General Hospital, she became certified as a Mental Health Counselor, and for a decade, between 1972 and 1981, dedicated every Friday to counseling at the Central Psychiatric Clinic at General Hospital . Soon her responsibilities extended to the Bethesda Hospital School of Nursing.

Her volunteer time continued to focus on caring for those in need. Serving on the YWCA Board for 12 years, she was actively involved in starting the Alice Paul House for Battered Women. She served for 10 years on the " Beacon Board" of the Lighthouse for Youth.

Ann wore many hats, not least of which was her deep interest in art, in design, and the creative genius of others. She early on recognized the uniqueness of primitive folk art and collected it with some authority. For a period of time, she represented Bantam Books and Warner Books in Cincinnati, and in a story she recently shared with Anderson Cooper (CNN), took his father Wyatt Cooper (who had authored a book), through all the tiny art shops in this city to procure confederate soldiers for his sons.

Wanting to try her hand at the renovation of old Cincinnati housing, she obtained a real estate license to do so. She returned to the YWCA with a new hat, this time on their "arts board", lending her hand to the creation of displays and publicity for Playhouse in the Park; became a lecturer and docent at the

Contemporary Arts Center; and from 1995- 2005 sat on the Fine Arts District Board.

A yellow dog democrat and daunted by little, Ann threw herself very early behind the political career of Tom Luken, who went on to win a seat in City Council, serve as Mayor and eventually in the House.

Ann traveled internationally and extensively. She had friends from all over the globe, many of them artists, with whom she kept in touch, and they with her.

As an artist friend wrote, upon hearing of her death, "Ann was fierce in life and in death". It aptly describes her.

Ann Moss Meranus was the beloved mother of Norman Meranus (Arthur Eisenbach), Dr. James Meranus (Meg) and David Meranus (Julie Rosin); dear sister of Mary Moss Greenebaum (John); grandmother of Kellen, Spadafore (Michael), Ariel, Jamie, Grant and Kyle Meranus; great grandmother of Benjamin Mia and Lucy Spadafore; Aunt of Anastasia (Stacey) Greenebaum (Scott) (children: Berit Bash Decker and Henry Decker), and Elliot Moss Greenebaum.

Graveside Service will be October 18, 11:00-11:30. United Jewish Cemetery, Walnut Hills, 3400 Montgomery Road, 45207.

Ann we were certain would appreciate memorial contributions to Lighthouse Youth and Family Services, 401 East McMillan Street, Cincinnati, Ohio, 45206; or CISV: Childrens International Summer Villages Inc: 9200 Montgomery Rd, Cincinnati, Ohio 45242 /or on line: www.cisvusa.org.

Cemetery Details

United Jewish Cemetery Walnut Hills

3400 Montgomery Road
Cincinnati, OH 45207

Previous Events

Graveside Service

OCT 18. 11:00 AM - 11:30 AM (ET)

United Jewish Cemetery Walnut Hills
3400 Montgomery Road
Cincinnati, OH 45207

Tribute Wall

OM

“ *Ann came to Paris many times and trusted me when I was in Cincinnati at the age of 18, to "babysit" Norman and Jimmy. I think about both of them now....*
Monique

Ollier Monique - October 26, 2023 at 01:07 PM

CV

“ *My friend Ann was a fighter. Sometimes I thought she didn't really need to go to battle; other times I was proud to have a friend who was so brave and so principled. Let me tell you a story: A few years ago, I went to visit Ann at her winter home in Florida. A few days before I arrived, some neighbors in her community invited her to a dinner party. She asked if she could bring me, since I'd be visiting. "I'm sorry," the hostess answered. "There is no room at the table." A day later, Ann called her neighbor. "If I had a man coming down for the weekend, you would make room for my date," she said. "You are turning down my houseguest just because she is a woman." That hostess relented, and somehow they made space for me at their table. I don't think many people would have been as daring or as blunt as Ann was, and I always admired her for it. There were many other times when Ann defied convention and stood up for what she believed to be right. I will always remember her courage. I know there will come a time when I will think, "What Would Ann Do?" and I will do it.*

Caroline Vigran - October 24, 2023 at 10:38 PM

TS

“ I was sad to learn of Ann’s passing. She a grand woman with myriad talents, excellent taste and genuinely warm & kind. When I was a young woman she gave me good advice & I’ve never forgotten it. My deepest condolences to Ann’s family & children. May her memory be a blessing. ❤️❤️❤️

Theresa Singleton - October 18, 2023 at 07:25 PM

JL

“ My condolences to Norman, Jim & David. I knew her most of my life. It was interesting to learn more about her here. May her memory be for a blessing. (Remember the good time)

Jim Levinson - October 16, 2023 at 01:18 PM

AF

“ Dear Jimmy

I'm so sorry for your loss.

Alice Fegelman - October 14, 2023 at 06:47 PM