



Manya B. Rawl

July 31, 1935 - March 21, 2023

Manya B. Rawl, 87, of Houston, passed away March 21, 2023. Manya was born July 31, 1935, in Baton Rouge, LA, to Ira Eugene and Gertie Mae McMillan Barksdale. She is preceded in death by her husband of 61 years, Hugh B. Rawl, her parents, and her brothers Gerald Lee Barksdale and James Alton “Cowboy” Barksdale. She is survived by her daughters Lisa M. Rawl (and her husband John Kane) and Arlene Rawl Coffman, and her extended family: her brother-in-law and sister-in-law, William B. and Nancy Rawl, and nieces and nephews.

Manya grew up in Baton Rouge in a family that enjoyed travelling, sports, and the great outdoors. She learned to fish, hunt, camp, and how to organize epic car trips at an early age. Manya also, as she loved to say, grew up in construction, helping her father at his construction and plumbing supply businesses. Manya learned how to handle tools and tackle projects, and as she got older, she worked as her father’s secretary and office manager.

Manya graduated with a degree in Home Economics from LSU in 1957. While at LSU, she was a member of Phi Mu Sorority, did some modeling for local department stores, and also reigned for a season as the Mardi Gras Queen for The Krewe of Romany.

She met her future husband, Hugh, on a blind date in Baton Rouge, and they

were married in December 1958. For the first few years they lived in Baton Rouge, where she worked with her father designing and building their first house, served on the Phi Mu House Corporation, and worked with noted architect A. Hayes Town to plan the Phi Mu House at LSU. She and Hugh also started their family in Baton Rouge, welcoming their daughters Lisa and Arlene.

A few years later, Hugh's job with the Humble Oil Company took the family to the New Orleans area for a brief stint, and then on to Houston, where they designed and built a house in Frostwood that that became their home for the rest of their lives.

Manya was a woman of many talents and was never afraid of a challenge. She could hunt and fish with the best, drive a tractor, teach Sunday School, and plan successful fundraising luncheons for her organizations. She had a lifelong love of fiber arts and made numerous handcrafted items for charities. Over the years Manya volunteered with Memorial City General Hospital, the Harris County Agricultural Extension Service, Houston Campfire Girls, the American Association of Family & Consumer Sciences, the Alexander Love Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, and other lineage / genealogical organizations. She also enjoyed working part time at James Avery Jewelry for several years.

Manya's greatest passion was her family. She was the consummate wife and mother, keeping things running smoothly while Hugh traveled extensively for work. Manya volunteered at her girls' schools, coached softball, cooked and baked for family and friends, and helped Lisa and Arlene move multiple times during and after college, all with a great sense of humor and a ready smile. She encouraged her daughters' interests, built their confidence, and supported them through all the challenges life can send. Manya had an unconditional love for her family and it showed in her every action.

A memorial service will be celebrated on Saturday, April 1, 2023, at 11:00 AM at the Virginia Harris Cockrell Chapel at Houston Hospice, 1905 Holcombe Blvd., Houston, TX 77030. Please feel free to wear colorful attire. A reception will follow the service.

Manya will be laid to rest at the Houston National Cemetery on Friday, April 14, 2023 at 11:00am. Visit www.DettlingFuneral.com if you wish to leave words of condolence for the family.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to either Houston Hospice, 1905 Holcombe Blvd., Houston, TX 77030, or to The Manya and Hugh Rawl Air Force ROTC Endowed Grants in Aid – Fund B2585 and mailed to The Clemson University Foundation at PO Box 1889, Clemson, SC 29633.

Manya's family wishes to express their deep appreciation for the loving care provided to her by Sharona with The Key/Elder Advisory Group, Hailea and the staff at Silverado Hermann Park, caregivers from The Key and Allied Health Services, and the Red Team at Houston Hospice: Dr. Reyser, Dr. Strauch, Crystal, Dan, Edris, Jan, Jodi, and Tiffany.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

APR 1. 11:00 AM (CT)

Virginia Harris Cockrell Chapel at Houston Hospice
1905 Holcombe Blvd.
Houston, TX 77030

Graveside Service

APR 14. 11:00 AM (CT)

VA Houston National Cemetery
10410 Veterans Memorial Drive
Houston, TX 77038-1502
<http://www.cem.va.gov/cems/nchp/houston.asp>

Tribute Wall



“ *Manya B. Rawl*

October 08, 2023 at 10:52 AM



“ *Manya B. Rawl*

October 06, 2023 at 01:12 AM



“ *Manya B. Rawl*

October 05, 2023 at 09:45 AM



“ *Manya B. Rawl*

October 05, 2023 at 01:54 AM

MC

“ I was so sad to learn that Mrs. Rawl had passed away! She played such a large role in my childhood. I have so many memories of her great laugh, her big presence, and her Baton Rouge drawl.

One specific memory that I've thought of fondly over the years is a softball practice. She was the coach and another parent - a dad, whom I'll call Dad A - was assisting her with coaching. Two men came over to our field to ask when our practice would end and they could begin the practice for their team. I was standing next to Mrs. Rawl as the men approached and she said, they are going to talk to Dad A because they think he's the coach, not me. She was right; that's exactly what they did. And then she just laughed. I don't think I realized until then that it was unusual to have a woman coach.

I hope that her passing was easy and that she is now at rest and at peace. I'm sending my love to Lisa and Arlene; no matter how old you are, losing a parent is hard and I'm thinking of you both.

Margaret Chriss

Margaret Chriss - March 29, 2023 at 06:07 PM

AR

Thank you Margaret! I remember that event!
Thank you for making me smile!

Arlene - March 31, 2023 at 11:45 PM