



Frances A. Velay

November 25, 1914 - January 20, 2007

VELAY

Frances A., an engaged philanthropist deeply committed to environmental concerns, particularly conservation of the Oceans and marine life, preservation of endangered species, especially her beloved turtles, and the prevention of cruelty to animals, Frances A. Velay 92 died peacefully at her home in Philadelphia on Saturday, January 20, 2007. Born in France on November 25, 1914 to Dora and Maxime Adolphe Velay, she received her Lic.S.C. at the University of Paris before moving to New York to earn her M.S. in Chemistry from New York University in 1947, continuing studies toward a Ph.D. at a time when few women pursued graduate work in science; she also studied philosophy at the University of Pennsylvania Graduate School and abroad. Later, Ms. Velay proudly became a United States citizen. Art and music were her avocations; she exhibited her pastels in Philadelphia and Oklahoma City where she lived for a few years and was a violinist with the Lansdowne Symphony Orchestra and other community orchestras in Philadelphia and Washington, D.C. In addition to her environmental concerns, she worked often through her two foundations, Panaphil and Uphill, to strengthen civic organizations in her adopted city of Philadelphia as well as to control global population, protect human rights and end discrimination, to support programs to enable individuals to help themselves, promote literacy, provide medical services to the underserved and sustain the arts.

Predeceased by her brother, Gerard Velay, she is survived by her brother,

Clement Velay, her sister, Dorrance Velay d'Audré, four nieces and nephews, namely Mireille Velay Turpin, Christophe Velay, Aude Velay and Philippe Velay, and by ten great nieces and nephews and one great-great niece. After a private funeral at Greenwood Cemetery, a memorial reception will be held at The University Club 1 West 54th Street in Manhattan on Wednesday, January 24, 2007 at noon.

Chadwick and McKinney Funeral Home

www.chadwickmckinney.com

Tribute Wall



“ I had the occassion to meet Ms. Velay only twice; but i never, ever forgot her! I was referred to her by the Academy of Natural Sciences for advise on caring for my beloved red-ear turtle. She invited me to her home, where I not only met her, but also her beloved turles. I specifically remember Romeo (at least that is what I think his name was). She explained how her turtles sat with her as she read the newspapers. On one occassion, i went with her as he took a turtle down the elevator and out into the courtyard for an outing. Her advise was invaluable, but more important, she was the most interesting person I have to date, ever met! I morn her departure from this life, and I surely hope I will meet up with her again, along with all of our turtles. Peace to all of those she has left behind, both human and reptile.##imported-begin##Roberta L Hacker, Philadelphia, PA##imported-end##

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