## **CROSSED THE BAR**

Melinda Martin Mouquin

3/08/1940 - 12/21/2021



Melinda, 81, known to her friends and family as "Nini', passed away on December 21, 2021, in Kihei, Maui, Hawaii, after a lengthy illness. She was born on March 8, 1940, in Grosse Pointe, Michigan.

Nini was preceded in death by ex-husband, Charles H. Mouquin, her mother, Mariette Martin Gordon, her father, John Kerfoot McEvoy, her stepfather, John J. Knight and her brother, John Wyatt Gordon, Jr. She is survived by brothers Jonathan J. (Kathryn) Knight and Thomas M. (Tracy) Knight and her cousins T. Scott (Janet) Martin and James G. (Marsha) Martin. Corinne McCord (Kevin), daughter-in-law of Nini's deceased cousin and close friend, Helen Austin McCord, provided loving guardianship of Nini during her many months of hospitalization.

Nini grew up in St. Louis, spending summers on the Belvedere Club, Charlevoix, Michigan. She graduated from The Barstow School in Kansas City, Missouri in 1958 and earned her bachelor's degree in English in 1962 at Hollins College, Roanoke, Virginia. Following graduation from Hollins, Nini travelled extensively in Europe. She later earned her MSW degree from Fordham University School of Social Service in 1989. She devoted her life to serving others in her chosen profession of Licensed Clinical Social Worker and Counselor to those in need of treatment for alcoholism and substance abuse.

Nini enjoyed a large circle of friends, especially from her summers in Charlevoix and her years at Hollins, maintaining contact with many until the end of her days, but most frequently with her loyal friends Libby McDonnell and Ruthie Moore.

Nini's proudest moments came following the publication of her book "*Searching for My Adopted Son: Born May 24, 1964,* Bookbaby, 2015, which led to her reuniting with her son whom she had given up for adoption upon his birth in 1964. Nini celebrated 30 years of sobriety in 2021.

Contributions will be appreciated in Nini's memory to: Hollins University, Hollins University Development Office, Box 9629, 7916 Williamson Road, Roanoke, Virginia, 24020