

Obituary of Marian L. Major

October 9, 1923 – May 28, 2025

Marian Lucille Lowrie Major, age 101, of Palm Harbor, Florida passed away on Wednesday, May 28, 2025. Marian was born on October 9, 1923 in New Jersey. Her parents were Levon and Mildred Murachanian. Her father was born in Armenia and her mother's father was born in Scotland.

Marian moved to Florida from Poughkeepsie, New York in 1957. She had a B.S. in Education from Bucknell University and an M.S. in Guidance from the University of South Florida. Before retiring after 30 years, she taught and was a Guidance Counselor in New Jersey, Virginia, New York, Pennsylvania, and Florida, 17 of which were at Clearwater High School. There, she started the Peer Facilitator program for troubled students and potential dropouts. She was on the committee which established the Pinellas County School for the Arts in St. Petersburg where she became the first Guidance Counselor.

Marian was an honorary 50-year member of the American Association of University Women where she served as Cultural Arts Chairman and President. She was a member of Trinity Presbyterian Church where she was an Elder and a member for over 50 years. At Trinity, she was an assistant to Rev. graves and an assistant to the children's choir director. She and her husband established the Couples Class and the Young People's Group. She started the rhythmic choirs, she was a Circle Chairman and the church Drama Chairman, a member of the Chancel Choir, and the Director of the annual Christmas Pageants.

Marian was also a member of the following: League of Women Voters, a charter member of Ruth Eckerd Hall, the Leading Ladies of Ruth Eckerd Hall, the Singing and Dancing Group of Armenia in the Festival of Nations, a charter member of St. Hagop Armenian Church appointed by the Archbishop, St. Hagop's first choir, the Women's Guild, the Antranik Language Class, the first Parish Council of the Church, and the planning committee of the money raising group that resulted in the building of the beautiful church in Pinellas Park. Meeting first in her home, she started the first chapter of the Armenian General Benevolent Union (AGBU) in the Orlando area. Marian was a teacher of English for the adult immigrants in Clearwater, Florida, and a teacher in the Belleview Biltmore Little Red Schoolhouse. She was a church soloist, actress, singer, and dancer. She enjoyed traveling, having traveled around the world to many countries where she collected native dolls to make up a collection of one hundred.

She is preceded in death by her husband, Kenneth H. Major. Marian is survived by her brother, Paul Murachanian of Kettering, Ohio; sisters, Alice Norford (Richard) of Mt. Dora, Florida and Edna Moody of Old Hickory, Tennessee; children, Bonnie Teunis of Palm Harbor,

FL, William Lowrie (Betsy) of Spring Hill, FL, Linda Larson (Ronald) of Spring Hill, FL, and Robert Lowrie of Franklin, NC; eleven grandchildren; fifteen great-grandchildren; five great-great grandchildren; many nieces and nephews, step-children, and step-grandchildren.

There will not be a memorial service or repast (reception). Family members may choose to gather at Serenity Gardens in Largo, FL for a final farewell.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to St. Hagop Armenian Church of Pinellas Park, Trinity Presbyterian Church of Clearwater, or St. Mark Village of Palm Harbor.