



Mary Louise "Lou" Potter

OCT 3, 1931 - JUL 29, 2025



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Mary Louise "Lou" Potter

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Mary Louise "Lou" Potter (née Bryant) passed away peacefully at her home in Roanoke, Virginia on July 29, 2025.

Born October 3, 1931 in Norfolk, Virginia to Jonas Ryland Bryant and Mary Elizabeth Bryant (née Judge), Lou grew up in the Tidewater area. Lou attended college at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Virginia, where she studied Architecture and met the love of her life, Alan Lee Potter, whom she married on June 16, 1951. Lou was active in various communities, clubs, and organizations throughout her life, notably the Lake of the Woods community, church, ski team, and volunteer rescue squad, the "Mount Vernon Mogul Mashers," and the Florida Oceanographic Society. Through her service on the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Lou was instrumental in the restoration of James Madison's Montpelier, a long-time passion of hers that extended to her continued work with the Montpelier Foundation, the Center for the Constitution, and the Dolley Madison Legacy Committee.

Lou was an avid water skier, snow skier, golfer, traveler, boater, dinner party host, history buff, reader, and art collector. A friend to many, she loved to have fun, ensured those around her had fun, and made whatever part of the world she was in a better place.

Lou's greatest passion was her family. She was preceded in death by her dear husband, Al Potter, son, Richard Lee Potter, son, Kenneth Stewart Potter, and brother, Jack Bryant.

She is survived by her daughter, Janet Bonner, daughter-in-law, Glenda Potter, David and Kristen Schlee, and sister-in-law, Jane Bryant, beloved grandchildren, Laura and Ian Minster, Stacy and Jason Mercer, Jim and Aileen Bonner, Samantha Potter, Lee and Shelby Potter, and Jordan Potter, and great grandchildren Madelyn (Maddie) Mercer, Phelps Mercer, Ava Potter, and Claire Potter.

A funeral service will take place at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, August 2, 2025, at Lake of the Woods Church, 1 Church Ln., Locust Grove, Va. Interment will follow at Laurel Hill Memorial Park.



Obituary

Mary Louise "Lou" Potter

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Condolences may be shared with her family online at foundandsons.com.




Events


Mary Louise "Lou" Potter

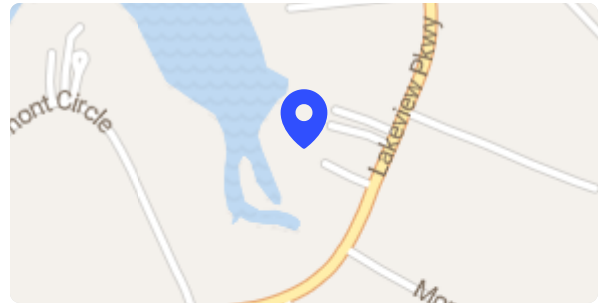
OCT 3, 1931 - JUL 29, 2025

Funeral Service


 **Saturday**, August 2, 2025

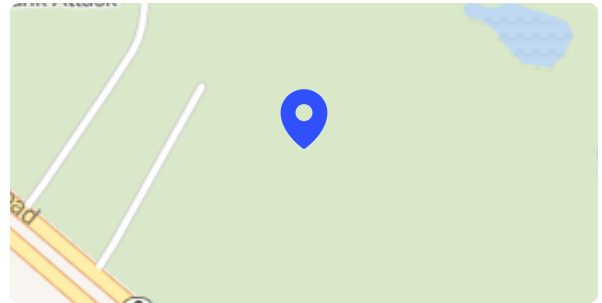
 9:00 AM ET

 **Lake of the Woods Church**
1 Church Lane, Locust Grove VA 22508



Cemetery Details

 **Laurel Hill Memorial Park**
10127 Plank Road, Spotsylvania VA 22553





Tribute Wall

Mary Louise "Lou" Potter

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Anonymous sent a Fairest of All to the Potter family.

August 1 at 11:03 AM



Anonymous planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Mary Louise "Lou".

August 1 at 11:03 AM



Pam And Dan Boney And Amber Osiecki sent a Full Of Love Bouquet to the Potter family.

August 1 at 7:25 AM



Pam And Dan Boney And Amber Osiecki planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Mary Louise "Lou".

August 1 at 7:25 AM



Lisa Mann posted:

Aunt Lou was one of the most inspiring, sweet and generous person, I have ever known. She was always happy. When you think of extraordinary, that was Aunt Lou. She was extraordinary. She will be missed. My condolences to my cousin's and their families. Love, Lisa

July 31 at 3:22 PM



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PI

Pat Ivey posted:

Dearest Lou, my close friend and mentor, repeatedly encouraged me to take an EMT class in 1979, even as I explained my lifelong aversion to any situation which would require EMT skills But she persisted and in 2006, I ran my last rescue call after twenty-six years of service. I took that initial step because Lou wouldn't give up on me. Together, Lou and I cared for hundreds of patients. We rejoiced together. We wept together. I would not be the person I am today without Lou. I would not have become an EMT Instructor or travelled to Mexico and Guatemala on medical missions, I would not have followed in her footsteps to become rescue captain, both of us serving at a time when females were not even allowed on many volunteer squads. Thank you to her wonderful family for sharing Lou with me and our Lake of the Woods community. I loved her so. Pat Ivey

July 31 at 10:12 AM



Anonymous sent an Arrive in Style to the Potter family.



July 31 at 7:58 AM



Anonymous sent a Peaceful White Lilies Basket to the Potter family.



July 31 at 3:49 AM



Anonymous planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Mary Louise "Lou".



July 31 at 3:49 AM



Anonymous sent a Pink Tribute Spray to the Potter family.



July 31 at 12:46 AM



Tribute Wall

Mary Louise "Lou" Potter

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Anonymous planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Mary Louise "Lou".



July 31 at 12:46 AM



Anonymous sent a Lavender Reflections Spray to the Potter family.



July 30 at 6:46 PM



Anonymous planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Mary Louise "Lou".



July 30 at 6:46 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Mary Louise "Lou" by
contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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