



Mary Ann Devane Allen

January 20, 1956 - May 16, 2022

SLINGERLANDS---Mary Ann Devane Allen, 66, passed away peacefully surrounded by her family on May 16, 2022, after a courageous battle against cancer. Born in Albany, New York, she was the daughter of Mary Patricia Whalen Devane and the late Thomas A. Devane Jr. Mary Ann graduated magna cum laude and as a member of Phi Beta Kappa from St. Lawrence University with her Bachelor's Degree in Government and English. She subsequently earned a Juris Doctor Degree cum laude from Albany Law School.

After completing her education, Mary Ann pursued distinguished careers in law and special needs advocacy. She began her first career as an associate attorney at Nixon, Hargrave, Devans, & Doyle, LLP, in Rochester, New York. Following her marriage, she returned to Albany and joined Bouck, Holloway, Kiernan, & Casey, LLP, where she eventually became partner. Subsequently, she became a founding partner at Allen, Johnson, & Lonergan. She was well respected throughout her legal career for her expertise in defense of property claims involving arson.

In 2001, after serving for several years as President of the Board of Directors of Wildwood Programs, Inc., an organization dedicated to providing services

for children and adults with developmental disabilities, Mary Ann joined Wildwood as its Chief Executive Officer and Executive Director. In this role, Mary Ann leveraged her legal expertise, as well as her personal experience as the mother of a child with autism, to help enhance the lives of countless individuals with special needs and their families. During her exemplary career at Wildwood, which ended upon her retirement in December 2020, Mary Ann was recognized throughout the community as a tireless advocate for individuals with special needs and a cherished mentor to many.

Mary Ann believed strongly in service to her community, and in addition to her prior service as President of the Wildwood Board of Directors, she was a member of the Board of Trustees at the Academy of the Holy Names and a volunteer with Family Promise of the Capital Region. She was also known for her remarkable dedication to her family and believed firmly that her role as a mother was her greatest accomplishment.

Mary Ann is survived by her beloved husband, John L. Allen, and her cherished children Matthew John Allen, Sarah Broderick Allen, and Molly Bowman Allen. Mary Ann is also survived by her mother, Mary Patricia Devane, and siblings, Thomas A. Devane III, Patricia Smith (Thomas), Maureen Kipper (Carl), Daniel Devane (Sharon), Brian Devane (Elizabeth) and Kathleen Fouracre (Douglas). She also leaves behind many deeply loved nieces, nephews, grand-nieces, grand-nephews, aunts, uncles, and cousins. She was predeceased by her beloved father, Thomas A. Devane Jr.

Services in honor of her life and legacy will be held privately at the convenience of her family.

In lieu of flowers and for those wishing to remember Mary Ann in a meaningful way, please send donations to: Wildwood Foundation, 1190 Troy-Schenectady Road, Latham, NY 12110.

To leave a message for Mary Ann's family, please visit www.McVeighFuneralHome.com

Tribute Wall



“ *Mary Ann Devane Allen*

October 08, 2023 at 09:24 PM



“ *Sarah and Molly, I am so sorry to hear of your mother's passing. She was an accomplished and caring person. You and your family will be remembered in my prayers.*

Marilyn Pusatere - June 02, 2022 at 09:00 PM



“ *I was so sad to hear about Mary Ann's passing. I served for many years with her on the LDA of NYS board and would collaborate on ideas for programming and funding for our like agencies. She was a wonderful colleague, but above all she loved sharing what her children where doing and how proud she was of all of them. She was beautiful inside and out. My deepest sympathies to you all.*

Paulette Purdy

Paulette Purdy - June 01, 2022 at 11:56 AM



“ *John, Please accept my deepest sympathies to you and your family. May you be comforted by the outpouring of support and love surrounding you during this difficult time and may Mary Ann's memory continue on through the tremendous mission of Wildwood.*

-Cheryl Sarjeant



Cheryl Sarjeant - May 25, 2022 at 01:13 PM

JB

“ *John and Family,*

My heartfelt condolences to you and your family on the loss of Mary Ann! I remember her fondly from my SSR&A days. She was always thoughtful and kind. My thoughts are with you and your family.

Judy Boivin

Judy Boivin - May 23, 2022 at 11:03 AM

BR

“ *You have my deepest sympathies, beyond being a wonderful person she was such a tireless advocate for Wildwood School and Wildwood camp. We can all remember her incredible efforts to bring water to the camp as if she would carry it up the hill in buckets if she had too. Our thoughts and prayers to John, Sarah, Matthew and Molly and all the family.*

Bob Reid

Bob Reid - May 22, 2022 at 06:05 PM

JF

“ *Farewell to a great leader, mother, and friend.*
Judy and Roy Fruiterman

Judy Fruiterman - May 22, 2022 at 03:20 PM

PM

“ *So sorry to hear of your sisters passing, our most sincere condolences from the Mineau family*

Paul Mineau - May 22, 2022 at 12:22 PM

CB

“ To the Allen and Devane families, my sincerest condolences for your loss. As an Albany Law classmate, I remember Mary Ann as an extraordinarily bright woman who was kind and positive. She surely left her indelible mark on the world in her dual career service and, in more recent years, her name often came up in conjunction with Wildwood. It was clear the impact she made and the respect she had earned. I am truly saddened by her passing at this early age. May your good memories with Mary Ann provide you with the strength to carry your heavy hearts.

Cathy (Marchese) Bennett

Cathy Bennett - May 21, 2022 at 11:53 PM

JA

“ I was deeply saddened to learn of Mary Ann's passing. Her dedication to Wildwood was inspiring. So many lives were touched by her commitment. My sympathy to John and their children on their loss.

Jim Ayers

James Ayers - May 21, 2022 at 10:55 AM

TB

“ My absolute deepest condolences to John, Matthew, Molly, Sarah Mary Ann's and siblings - Mary Ann loved those she loved hard and no one was more passionate about the work bring at Wildwood than her. She's gone way too soon; she had a whole new chapter to write



Tracy Blowers - May 20, 2022 at 10:03 PM

MR

“ *My heartfelt sympathy to you in the loss of such a special lady. May you find comfort and peace as you honor her and all she accomplished.*

Love and prayers, Mary Riegert

Mary E Riegert - May 20, 2022 at 08:13 PM

DR

“ *I am deeply saddened to learn of MaryAnn's passing. I can only imagine the weight of the loss to her family and close friends. I have known MaryAnn through her years at Wildwood. I have great respect for this woman and have valued her support as a colleague and an advocate. My thoughts are with you who bear this loss most.*

Deb Rowell - May 20, 2022 at 12:23 PM

FM

“ *To John and Brian, and Mary Anne's family--Ruth and I were so very sorry hear this sad news, but as so many have no doubt already expressed, Mary Ann was a wonderfully warm, kind and caring person and her life's work will not be forgotten and will always be appreciated, as will Mary Ann.*

Frank Milano

Frank Milano - May 20, 2022 at 08:47 AM

GJ

“ MaryAnne and I both began our legal careers as first year associates at Nixon, Hargrave, Devins and Doyle in Rochester. Our lives crossed paths again on occasion as we also landed in the Albany area. Highly respected, MaryAnne had a distinguished legal career. Her second career as CEO at Wildwood was immeasurably impactful to so many.

My wife Debra and I extend our condolences to the Devane & Allen Family.

Gary Jakaitis

Gary Jakaitis - May 19, 2022 at 08:58 PM

RE

“ My deepest condolences to John & the family on the untimely death of Mary Ann Allen. She was an outstanding CEO of Wildwood and I personally witnessed many young lives transformed by her leadership in thoughtful and collaborative programs for the disabled. Her family can be proud of what she accomplished in her life. It was quite meaningful.

Robert G. Wakeman, Esq. - May 19, 2022 at 11:40 AM

JM

“ To all the Devane's. So sorry for your loss. Ellie and Jim Mc Mahon

Jim Mc Mahon - May 19, 2022 at 10:31 AM

JT

“ To the Allen and Devane families. Our sincere condolences and prayers for your loss. R.I.P. Mary Ann. Joe and Jerry Teresi

Joseph Teresi - May 19, 2022 at 07:48 AM



“ *Safe home My Beautiful Sister.* ❤️

Patty Smith - May 18, 2022 at 05:35 PM