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MARY RITA KRIZIK

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Family-Placed Obituary

MARY RITA KRIZIK "Mayrita" "Survivor of The Cocoanut Grove Fire" Boston, Massachusetts Age 93 of Tequesta, FL, formerly of Worcester and Cape Cod, MA, passed peacefully at home on February 4, 2010. She was predeceased by her husband of fifty-one years, Charles "Chuck" in 2003. She leaves behind her daughter, Maria and son-in-law, Robert St. Thomas of Tequesta and Cape Cod and her loving brother, Paul Conlon of Worcester who will miss her dearly and his wife, Marguerite. She leaves behind a sister-in-law, Doris Conlon who loved her as a sister and a host of in-laws, nieces, nephews, cousins and other relatives and friends. She was very close with her daughter's friends from St. Michael's College and Cape Cod who loved her as their own mother and friend. She was born in Worcester, MA daughter of William Canning and Mary Earley Canning and step-daughter of James Conlon who raised her as his own. Four brothers and one sister predeceased her, William "Ski" Canning, Thomas, Raymond and James Conlon. Her only sister, Monica perished in the Cocoanut Grove Fire along with her fiancée on November 28, 1942 in Boston. Mayrita survived the fire thanks to her brother, Ski and his wife, Phyllis, but spent the next six months at Mass. General recuperating. Almost five hundred people died in the fire after the Holy Cross/Boston College football game, which was the biggest upset of the century in football history of the two rivals. Her family operated and ran the first horse drawn mail delivery service in Worcester. She was an active member of St. Charles Borromeo Church in Worcester as well as Worcester Country Club and the Pleasant Valley Country Club. Before she wed, she worked at the Worcester Antiquarian Society and State Opticians. She was a member of the St. Agnes Guild for many years, loved to dance at Jonny Hynes and spent the weekends swimming at the Poor House. Mayrita was an avid fan of the Boston Red Sox and spent her 85th birthday at the Sox/Yankees game at Fenway Park. She spent many happy hours watching her brother, Ski, a jockey, who competed at various race tracks around the country. She was an accomplished pianist, who at nine years old, played her recital piece by memory. Her friends and family will remember her as the "hostess with the mostest". She loved to entertain; she loved her scotch, and on her 90th birthday received thirteen bottles. She was a chocolate fanatic until the day she passed. No one loved to have a good time better than "Maize" the eternal optimist. Today, Mayrita lives in a better place and this place is a better place because she lived in it. She lived long and she lived well! A Memorial Mass will be celebrated in Mashpee, MA with the date to be announced. The family suggests memorial donations be made in her memory to the Hospice Foundation, c/o Treasure Coast Hospice, 1201 SE Indian Street, Stuart, FL 34997 or Safe Harbor Animal Rescue League, 185 E. Indiantown Rd., Jupiter, FL 33477. Taylor & Modeen Funeral Home Family Owned & Operated (561) 744-2030, Jupiter, FL To express condolences and/or make donations Visit PalmBeachPost.com/obituaries

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Mary Hedman

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Joe & Maria Rintone

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