



# Deborah Cotaya Burton

MAR 24, 1950 - APR 22, 2023



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# Deborah Cotaya Burton

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**D**eborah Cotaya Burton, a native of New Orleans and longtime resident of Mandeville, passed away on April 22, 2023 at the age of 73.

Debbie was born on March 24, 1950. Her memory is held sacred by the great love of her life, Henry “Hank” Burton, her husband for 42 years, and her devoted mother, Vurla Colwart Justi. She was preceded in death by her father, Wilfred Cotaya, stepmother Anna May Pinto Cotaya, and stepfather Jerome Justi. She will be mourned and remembered by brothers Anthony Caruso, Sr. (Corrine), Terry Caruso, and Wayne Cotaya (Jo Anna); nephews Justin Smith and Anthony Caruso, Jr; nieces Lindsey Caruso, Trisha Cotaya Person, and Katie Lynn Cotaya; along with their spouses and children.

Debbie’s career in administrative and finance roles spanned Pan American Life, Marriott Hotels, the New Orleans Saints, CLK, Inc. as well as owning and operating an accounting services business for many years.

Debbie was an ardent sports fan especially when it came to the Saints and LSU; always ready to offer astute observations on the latest games. She loved animals and cared deeply for her pet cats, whom certainly greeted her excitedly in heaven.

In lieu of flowers, it was Debbie's wish that donations be made in her memory to the St. Tammany Parish Animal Services or the National Shrine of Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos.

A private memorial for family and close friends will follow at a later date. Please Share a Memory on the Tribute Wall at [www.ejfieldingfh.com](http://www.ejfieldingfh.com).



## Tribute Wall

**Deborah Cotaya Burton**

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MB

**Melinda Blanchard** posted:

I knew I knew the name when I read the obituary in the paper but couldn't place from where until in read "New Orleans Saints", then it was so clear. Debbie lived in the apartment (Chateaux Dijon) next door to me and my roommate back in very early 70's. I thought she was the most beautiful, cool girl in the world, and she worked for the Saints! Wow! Remember it was early 70's. She was the sweetest person. We had a cat and when the maid came, she kept our cat in her apartment for the day. (No pets allowed). She and us dodged management for quite a while. I am so sad to read this.....my deepest sympathy. I know your loss in tremendous. Melinda Blanchard, Metairie, La.

May 5 at 10:15 AM

JT

**Julie Tamplain** posted:

Debbie was a beautiful soul and a wonderful mentor to me when I first moved to Louisiana in 1989. Her work at CLK was exemplary and I had big shoes to fill! Although we hadn't seen each other (or shared a martini) in ages, we still exchanged Christmas cards every year including 2022. Rest in peace, Debbie - a well-deserved rest after a long battle. You were so special to me. With much love and great respect, Julie Bissell Tamplain

April 30 at 5:32 PM



## **Memories only last if you share them**

Join us in honoring Deborah by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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