

Nina Trimboli, 78; Tuesday service

Rosena "Nina" Cotter Trimboli, 78, of Beaufort, loyal spouse, devoted mother, loving grandmother and dedicated community volunteer passed Wednesday Oct. 27 in Franklin, Tenn.

Services will be held at 10 a.m. Tuesday at Lord and Stephens Funeral Home East in Athens, Ga. Burial will follow at Oconee Hills Cemetery, also in Athens.

She was born on Nov. 30, 1931, in Boston, Mass., to Julia Bradshaw Rahr and Major Fredrick Hill Rahr of 128 Prince Ave. in Athens, Ga., now the home of the President of the University of Georgia. Fredrick Rahr founded and directed the Institute for Color, which was the genesis for the use of color in a myriad of consumer products. Julia was the president and an active member of the Junior League of New York City and Daughters of the American Revolution. Nina had a blissful childhood, often recounting the giggling with her younger brother Fredrick Jr., while sliding down the front banisters at Bradshaw White Hall. As a young girl, Nina moved with her family to Scarsdale, N.Y., and later to Manhattan's Upper East Side. She was an enthusiastic Girl Scout and then a debutant at the Metropolitan Museum of New York, Club 21 and in Athens. Nina attended The Chapin School before finishing at Finch College. While living in New York City, Nina met her first husband Colonel Chester Fairbanks Cotter with whom she had three beloved children: Christopher Ashton Cotter (Angela Buckner-Cotter), Susan Fairbanks Cotter LeCraw and James Hill Cotter (Marion Stewart Sullivan). As a young couple, Nina and Chester moved to the idyllic suburban community of Little Silver, N.J., where Nina was an active and engaged mother. Her home was always filled with the laughter of neighborhood children and pets of all shapes and sizes. She particularly loved living near the ocean and enjoyed long summer days with her children at the Surfriider Beach Club. With children off to school, Nina met her late husband Patrick Anthony Trimboli whom she married in 1984. She shared nearly 27 years of marriage with Pat who proved to be her soul mate throughout life's journey. In their later years, Nina and Pat traveled south seeking warmer climates and a welcoming community. They settled in Beaufort and built a wonderful home with soothing views of the nearby sound. Their years in Beaufort were filled with happiness and many visitors, Pat and Nina never tired of trips to Cape Lookout National Seashore, theater productions in Wilmington, Morehead City's seafood restaurants or boat rides to view the legendary wild ponies of Shackleford Banks. Nina immersed herself into the community, opening up a small antiques business in Morehead City, joining the First Presbyterian Church, serving as an active supporter of Habitat for Humanity of the Crystal Coast and volunteering for numerous social service agencies. Next to her family and church, the love of her life was gardening. She spent many hours in the backyard of the family home in Little Silver creating a bright and colorful array of gardens throughout the spring and summer. As they established themselves in Beaufort, they set about planting a gorgeous garden and orchard blooming throughout the year. She also adored traveling and at various times explored the ski slopes of the Poconos in Pennsylvania, the warm skies of Palm Springs, Calif., and several remote islands around the world. She was always adventurous and on the go leading extensive trips through China and South America with her late husband. With three granddaughters, Nina particularly relished the opportunity to send packages of fanciful dresses, new school clothes or summer outfits for the girls to enjoy. She would also never pass up an opportunity to play cars or just talk on the phone with her grandsons. Nina was a devoted friend who always had open ears, arms, and heart. As a caring relative, she never missed a birthday, anniversary, holiday or chance to bring tidings of love.

Nina will be deeply missed by her many loved ones including her three children and five grandchildren, Ashton LeCraw, Julian LeCraw, Coles Cotter, Julia Cotter, and Ryan Cotter.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be sent to the Foundation for Shackleford Horses at 252-728-6437 or the Crystal Coast Habitat for Humanity 252-223-2111.

(Paid obituary)