

**MEMORIAL RESOLUTION
FOR
MARYDA COLOWICK**

Maryda Colowick was a pioneer and a leader throughout her life. When she decided to become a lawyer at age 55, she left behind a long career in science. She had earned a Master's degree in microbiology from New York University and met her husband, biochemist Sidney Colowick, when they both worked at the Cold Spring Harbor Laboratories. They married in 1951 and enjoyed a 33-year long partnership, working together on scientific research and also on raising their three daughters, Ann, Susan, and Nancy Colowick.

In 1959, the Colowick family moved to Nashville; Maryda was then age 36. Both Maryda and Sidney Colowick worked at Vanderbilt. During the 1960's and 70's, however, Maryda Colowick actively participated in anti-war and civil rights movements, finding them rewarding. She decided to devote herself to the law.

In the mid-1970's, she enrolled in the University of Memphis School of Law, living in Memphis during the week and commuting back home to Nashville on the weekends to see her husband and daughters. While a law student, she worked with Memphis Legal Aid.

At her law school graduation in 1978, Maryda Colowick joined the first wave of large numbers of women entering the legal profession. At that time, there were very few opportunities for women in established law firms. All women were barred from the private clubs existing in downtown Nashville where lawyers customarily gathered for lunch. The Davidson County Criminal Court judges were reluctant to allow women to appear in their courts as District Attorneys. It was a different time, but not so long ago.

Not needing permission from anyone, Maryda Colowick set up a private law practice with her friend, attorney Laird Foster; they practiced together as Foster & Colowick for twenty years. At first, Maryda practiced general civil law, but over time focused her practice on representing persons seeking disability benefits from the Social Security Administration.

At one of the first such practitioners in Nashville, Maryda Colowick became a mentor to lawyers who entered this practice area in administrative law. She was generous about sharing her experience and knowledge with new practitioners. She was devoted to her clients, whose quality of life improved markedly as a result of her work.

Maryda Colowick was a founding member of the Greater Nashville Unitarian Church and was known for her generosity to family, friends, and those in need. At her recent death at age 87, her colleagues in the Nashville Bar recalled her sense of humor, gift for friendship, and courageous spirit.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE Nashville Bar Association that we honor the life and work of Maryda Colowick and mourn in her passing the loss of an able lawyer dedicated to the finest traditions of her profession.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Memorial Resolution be placed in the permanent records of the Association and entered in the "In Memoriam" Minute Book of the Chancery Court of Davidson County, Tennessee, and that a copy be furnished to members of Ms. Colowick's family.

APPROVED FOR ENTRY:


MARYDA COLOWICK MEMORIAL RESOLUTION COMMITTEE


CHRISTINA NORRIS

11-17-2010
Date


MARK FRALEY

11-17-2010
Date


CHANCELLOR