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A lifelong resident of Jacksonville Mary Alice has been active in the civic and philanthropic life of the area since her post collegiate years. She married a widower with eleven children and they were the parents of one child. For the next seventeen years her service was in the volunteer field with emphasis on the local and state League of Women Voters and the Mayor's Economic Development Commission as well as an appointment to the Downtown Development Authority of Mayor Jake Godbold during the "billion dollar" decade.

In the mid-eighties, Mary Alice was employed by St Vincent's HealthCare where she served for thirty years retiring as System Director for Community Health and Benefit. While at St Vincent's Mary Alice was a participant in the Regional Leadership Academy and has remained active with the Regional Community Institute. Mary Alice is also a graduate of Leadership Florida and Leadership Jacksonville. She has served as chair of both the Florida Commission on Ethics and he Jacksonville Commission on Ethics.

Currently Mary Alice is on the board of the English Speaking Union of the United States, is active with the Women's Giving Alliance, a member of the Rotary of South Jacksonville and is a "bagger" for Food for the Hungry in San Miguel deAllande, Mexico.

Mary Alice is a graduate of Bishop Kenny High School, received her undergraduate degree in Political Science from Trinity College Washington D.C. and her Masters in Government from Florida State University.