

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



NPS History Collection

NPS Women Cartes de Visite Collection



Mary Lou Grier. (NPS History Collection Photo).

Mary Lou Grier

Washington Office

Deputy Director, 1982-1985

- Born Mary Lou Maas on December 22, 1926 in the Panama Canal Zone, where she also grew up.
- Studied journalism at the University of Missouri.
- Married Baxter Grier, a member of the U.S. Army Air Corps. Together they had three children.
- Worked at the Honolulu Star-Bulletin while stationed there with her husband in Hawaii.
- Moved to San Antonio, TX after WWII and was general counsel and director of public affairs for an insurance company for 8 years.
- Became involved in politics as vice chair of the Republican Party of Bexar County and manager for a U.S. Representative campaign.
- From 1975, worked for Small Business Administration in Washington, D.C. managing national advisory councils.
- From 1976-1977, served as deputy director and acting director for the U.S. Bureau of Outdoor Recreation.
- Worked for U.S. Representative Tom Loeffler from c. 1979-1981.
- Owned a number of businesses including apartments, gas station, shopping center, contracting firm, and concrete company.
- Became deputy director of the NPS, as a political appointee with no NPS experience, under the Reagan administration on January 4, 1982.
- Oversaw the Park Restoration and Improvement Program, and assisted states with developing and preserving historical, archeological, and recreational resources.
- Left the NPS on October 5 1985.
- Died February 15, 2013.

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