



Marcelline Yves Fontenette

December 2, 1944 - August 21, 2026

Lafayette, Louisiana

Marcelline Yves Fontenette died in Lafayette on August 21, 2026. She was 81. Born in Lafayette on December 2, 1944, into a Cajun household that treated work as a language. She learned early that a day is something you finish, not something you wait for.

She fed weddings and wakes with the same cayenne courage. A tin that never emptied was half myth and half thrift; neighbors still taste her boil when the weather turns. Colleagues still mention a cayenne tin that never emptied.

She married Alcee in 1966. They kept a house that stayed modest when the neighborhood did not. They raised two sons through public schools and ordinary weather. After Alcee died in 2019, she kept the routines that still made sense: the walk, the garden, the Sunday call.

Neighbors remember covered dishes that arrived without a speech. She liked early mornings before the heat or the noise. She died in Lafayette, among streets she never needed to explain. The garden will come up next spring without being told.

Services

A memorial gathering in Lafayette with coffee afterward. In lieu of flowers, a gift to a local workers' fund, clinic, or neighborhood library is welcome.

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