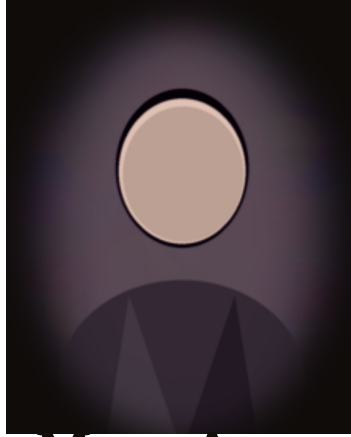




Mary Astor

May 3, 1906 - September 25, 1987

Woodland Hills, California

Mary Astor - born Lucile Vasconcellos Langanke - American actress whose dark-eyed precision carried her from silent features through *The Maltese Falcon* and an Oscar-winning turn in *The Great Lie*, died in Woodland Hills, California, on September 25, 1987. She was eighty-one. Born May 3, 1906, in Quincy, Illinois, she entered pictures as a teenager, survived the leap to sound, and built a craft that treated flawed women as subjects rather than ornaments.

Brigid O'Shaughnessy opposite Humphrey Bogart remains the pop-culture shorthand, yet colleagues remembered a professional who also wrote memoirs and novels when the camera work thinned. Scandal and health struggles shadowed private years; the screen work kept its cool architecture - a look that could bargain, betray, or break without wasting a frame.

Woodland Hills's Motion Picture Country House became a late refuge after decades of studio gates. She died of respiratory complications after emphysema, leaving a filmography that still teaches how close-ups can think.

Silent-era training left her with a face that could hold a secret across a two-shot; directors used that stillness the way later actors use monologues. She wrote about the cost of that life with a candor rarer than studio publicity allowed. Fans who only know the Falcon still discover Dodsworth and *The Great Lie* waiting in the catalog.

She died in Woodland Hills on September 25, 1987. Noir festivals still cut to that falcon glare when the plot turns.

Astor's gift was intelligent allure - making temptation look like a carefully argued case. Notice Nearby keeps the death date so September 25 remembers the Quincy actress who outlasted silent film and sharpened talkies.

Services

Died in Woodland Hills, California, September 25, 1987. Actress of silent and sound eras; Oscar winner; The Maltese Falcon.

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