

Lila Cockrell



Ms. Lila Cockrell received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Southern Methodist University (SMU) in Dallas. She has past military experience, having served as an Ensign in the Waves during World War II. Her public service includes serving as a San Antonio City Councilwoman from 1963 - 70 and again from 1973 - 75. In 1975 she was elected Mayor of San Antonio and served until 1981 and again from 1989 - 91. She received an honorary Doctor of Science degree from Our Lady of the Lake University in San Antonio, and a Doctor of Humane Letters from Southern Methodist University. She now holds the position of President of the San Antonio Parks Foundation.

Ms. Cockrell has served on a number of local, state, and national boards and currently serves as Co-Chairman of the San Antonio River Oversight Committee, National Trustee of the San Antonio Museum of Art, a Trustee of Southwest Research Institute, Honorary Life Member, San Antonio Economic Development Foundation, a member of the Texas Forum of the International Women's Forum, National Trustee of the San Antonio Museum of Art, Board Member and past Chairman of the World Affairs Council of San Antonio, and Past Chair of the MasterCard Alamo Bowl,

Among the many local, state and national honors she has received are; San Antonio Women's Hall of Fame, Texas Women's Hall of Fame, the Tom Bradley Award for Public Service from the National Association of Regional Councils, the Spence Vanderlinden Award for Public Service from the American Public Power Association, the Woman Who Made A Difference from the International Women's Forum, as well as a number of local and regional awards.

She was the widow of Sidney E. Cockrell, Jr. and has two daughters, Carol (Mrs. Robert L. Gulley) of Alexandria, VA and Cathy (Mrs. John Newton) of Boerne, TX and two grandchildren, Dodge Garman of San Antonio and Annalee Gulley of Alexandria, VA.

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Lila Cockrell

Current Position:

President, San Antonio Parks Foundation August 1998

Current Boards:

Co-Chair, San Antonio River Oversight Committee
National Trustee, San Antonio Museum of Art
Trustee, Southwest Research Institute
Advisory Board Member, Arts! San Antonio
Board Member, World Affairs Council of San Antonio
Honorary Board Member – San Antonio Economic Development Foundation

Past Elective Offices Held:

Mayor, City of San Antonio 1975-1981;
1989-1991

Councilwoman, City of San Antonio 1963-1970;
1973-1975

Past Work Experience:

Deputy Director for Civic and Community Affairs 1994-1998
San Antonio Museum of Art

President, Travel By Design, Ltd. 1991-1994
(Successor Agency to Atkins Travel)

President, Atkins Travel Agency, Inc. 1984-1989

Director of Community Relations, 1972-1974
Ecumenical Center for Religion and Health

Coordinator of Volunteer Services 1970-1972
San Antonio State Chest Hospital

Past Boards, Commissions and Committees:

National Level:

Member, National Commission on Severely Distressed 1991-1993
Public Housing (appointed by Housing Banking Chair,
Congressman Henry B. Gonzalez)

One of the first five women selected as participant, 1981
National Security Forum of the U.S. Air War College,
Maxwell AFB.

Advisory Board, National League of Cities	1979-1981
Advisory Board, U.S. Conference of Mayors	1978-1981
Board of Directors, National League of Cities	1977-1979
President, Women in Municipal Government Sector National League of Cities	1976
Board of Directors, National Association of Regional Councils	1973-1975
<u>State Levels:</u>	
Board of Directors, Texas Municipal League	1973-1981; 1989-1991
President, Texas Municipal League	1975-1976
Texas Commission on Intergovernmental Relations	1973-1975
<u>Regional Level:</u>	
Chairman, Greater Austin – San Antonio Corridor Council	1989-1990
President, Region 7, Texas Municipal League	1974-1975
Chairman, Alamo Area Council of Governments	1973-1975
<u>Local Level:</u>	
Chair – Mayor’s Committee on Integrity & Trust in Local Government	2003
Co-Chair, Mayor’s Blue Ribbon Commission on San Antonio’s Economy	2001-2002
Board Member, Carver Community Cultural Center Development Board	2001-2002
Board Member, Texas Research Park Foundation	1999-2002
Past Chairman, Alamo Bowl	2000
Downtown Advisory Board (appointed by Councilman Roger Flores)	1997-2000
Coordinating Chairperson, City of San Antonio 109.7 million bond campaign (4 propositions – all passed with over 60% majority) May 7, 1994	1994

Chairman, General Gifts Section Salvation Army Capital Campaign	1994
Chairman, World Affairs Council	1992-1994
San Antonio Regional Advisory Board Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service	1981-1994
Chairman, Arts! San Antonio	1992-1993
Chairman, City Public Service Board	1987-1988
Board Member, President and Chairman of the Board San Antonio Festival	1983-1993
Ex Officio Board Member, City Public Service Board, City Water Board and City Transit Board	1975-1981
President, League of Women Voters of San Antonio	1959-1963

Honors and Awards:

National Level:

<i>Woman Who Made a Difference</i> International Women's Forum	1985
<i>Outstanding Civilian Service Medal</i> United States Army	1981
<i>Meritorious Civilian Service Medal</i> Department of the Air Force	1981
<i>Spence Vanderlinden Award for Public Service</i> American Public Power Association	
<i>Thomas Bradley Award for Public Service</i> National Association for Regional Councils	

State Level:

<i>San Antonio Business Hall of Fame</i>	2004
<i>Girl Scout Trefoil Award Recipient</i>	2004
<i>The Legends of Texas Award</i> Sun City Texas by Del Webb	2000
<i>Public Service Award</i> Texas Public Power Association	1985

Texas Women's Hall of Fame 1984
(One of the first 12 inductees along with
Lady Bird Johnson and Barbara Jordan)

Local Level:

Robert H. H. Hugman Hospitality Award 2002
San Antonio Convention and Visitors Bureau

Joe Frost Play Advocate 2002
The University of the Incarnate Word

Lifetime Achievement Award 2001
Alamo Area Council of Governments

Distinguished Sales and Marketing Award 1999
Sales and Marketing Executives

Humanitarian Award 1996
National Conference of Christians and Jews

San Antonio's Women's Hall of Fame 1984
(One of the first group of inductees)

Senior Citizen Housing Development renamed
Lila Cockrell Apartments by the San Antonio
Housing Authority. 1981

Theater of Performing Arts in HemisFair Plaza
Renamed *Lila Cockrell Theater*. 1981

Officially named *Mayor Emeritus* by City Council
after retirement as Mayor. 1981

Politician of the Decade 1980
San Antonio Light

Politician of the Year 1980
San Antonio Express-News

*In addition to these, over 100 local awards, plaques, and certificates of
appreciation have been received.

International Travel and Special Delegations:

As City Councilwoman:

Represented City of San Antonio in the State of
Texas Bicentennial Commission official trip to Guatemala 1974
led by Mark White, Secretary of State.

As Mayor:

- Delegate and speaker, International Conference on “Acropolipses” hosted by Mayor of Osaka, Japan 1990
- Participant in anniversary celebrations in San Antonio’s Sister City of Kumamoto, Japan as guest of Mayor Ti Jiri. 1989
- Numerous trips to Mexico; received by President Luis Echeverria at Los Pinos March 1976; by President Carlos Salinas in 1990. Sister City visits to Monterrey, Guadalajara and Mazatlan 1975-1981; 1989-1991
- Member, U.S. Conference of Mayors first official delegation to visit the People’s Republic of China 1979
- Member, U.S. Conference of Mayors first official mayoral delegation to visit the People’s Republic of China (Taiwan). 1978
- Member, National League of Cities official delegation, Bi-National Conference on Culture and Urban Development. Munich, Nuremberg and Berlin, West Germany; extension trip to Warsaw, Poland and Budapest, Hungary. 1977
- Official City of San Antonio representative at the 500th Anniversary of the founding of Las Palmas, Canary Islands, Spain – one of San Antonio’s Sister Cities. 1976
- Visit to Israel, accompanying Winnie and Alton Newell of San Antonio, on the occasion of a park being named in their honor in Jerusalem by Mayor Teddy Kollak. 1975

As Mayor Emeritus:

- Participated in cultural delegation to Kumamoto, Japan in connection with *Hinokuni Festa Kumamoto 1993*. 1993

Education:

B.A., Southern Methodist University
Dallas, Texas
Speech and English

Honorary Degrees

Doctor of Science, Our Lady of the Lake University
San Antonio, Texas

Doctor of Human Letters, Southern Methodist University
Dallas, Texas

Military Service:

Served as Ensign in Waves; received an award of recognition as Commanding Officer of the company of Waves judged “Best Commanded and Performed in the Bureau of Ships Regiment of Waves”. 1943-1944

Personal:

Widow of Sidney Earl Cockrell, Jr.

Children:

Carol Ann (Mrs. Robert Lee Gulley)
Alexandria, Virginia

Cathy Lynn (Mrs. John Newton)
San Antonio, Texas

Grandchildren:

Annalee Gulley – Alexandria, Virginia
Dodge Garman – San Antonio, Texas