

Meet the one and only Mary Ann from Gilligan's Island!

Can you believe that **Gilligan's Island** is turning 50 this year!?

September 2014 marks the golden anniversary of the beloved show, and Mary Ann has made it back from the island and is here in Las Vegas to celebrate.

Dawn Wells, who played Mary Ann in the classic television series, is attending ALA to meet and greet with her fans and to promote her upcoming book ***What Would Mary Ann Do?***

*****Dawn Wells will be signing galleys of *What Would Mary Ann Do?* in the Rowman & Littlefield booth (#735) on Friday, June 27 from 5:30 – 7:00PM. Quantities are limited. *****

Ironically, Dawn Wells is native of Reno, Nevada, and she represented Nevada in the Miss America pageant in 1959! Yes, that is right, Mary Ann was actually Miss Nevada!

Before the fame and bright lights, Wells attended Stephens College in Missouri. Once out West, she found success in Hollywood immediately appearing in such shows as *77 Sunset Strip*, *Maverick*, *Bonanza*, and *Hawaiian Eye*. She was later cast in the role of a lifetime as Mary Ann in *Gilligan's Island*, beating out 350 other actresses, including Raquel Welch. Since then, Wells has continued acting on the stage and screen, producing films, and has been active in a number of charities.

As the sweet, polite, and thoughtful Mary Ann Summers from Kansas in the hit series ***Gilligan's Island***, Dawn Wells created an unforgettable and beloved character that still connects with people fifty years from the show's debut. As the "good girl" among the group of castaways on a tiny island, she was often positioned against the glamorous and exotic Ginger Grant, played by Tina Louise, prompting many to ask: Are you a Ginger or a Mary Ann?

This book not only helps readers answer that question for themselves but also sends the inspirational and heartwarming message that yes, good girls do finish first. Part self-help, part memoir, and part humor—with a little classic TV nostalgia for good measure—***What Would Mary Ann Do?*** contains twelve chapters on everything from how Mary Ann would respond to changes in today's culture to addressing issues confronting single women and mothers.

Wells brings along her fellow characters from *Gilligan's Island* to illustrate certain principles, such as incorporating the miserly Thurston Howell III (Jim Backus) in a discussion on money. Anecdotal sidebars also describe fascinating facts and compelling memories from the show, as well as some trivia questions to challenge fans and followers. Illustrated with photographs from Wells's private collection, this book provides inspiring lessons from TV's favorite good girl.

For More information contact Kalen Landow at klandow@rowman.com

About the book:

WHAT WOULD MARY ANN DO? By Dawn Wells with Steve Stinson (September)

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