

Cheryl Zoe Thomas

Obituary



Thomas, Cheryl Zoe

Cheryl Zoe Thomas floated gracefully to another world on July 21, 2013 @ 1:00 am with family members around her, holding her hands and her heart. Born in Los Angeles on September 4, 1940 to William T. and Betty Hornaday, this elegant and unforgettable lady meant something to everyone in her life but in different ways. Anyone who met

her came away with a story to tell, whether humorous or tear jerking.

Cheryl was married at Calico Ghost Town near Barstow, CA shortly after graduating from high school. Her husband, Gerald "Dutch" Lake, worked for the Santa Fe Railroad which brought yearly location transfers for the entire family. Inspired by her great love for travel, Cheryl worked as a travel agent and eventually opened her own travel agency, Leisure World of Travel, in northern California. As an accomplished decorator and organizer, side assignments were staging, decorating and party planning. From that point on, she ticked off the items on her travel bucket list, including an around the world cruise (it was rumored that while on the cruise she jumped ship in Manzanillo). Somewhere along this path, Cheryl met Hardie Setzer, a pilot with a private plane. Cheryl learned to fly, got her pilot's license and, together, they joined the flying doctors team, conducting mercy flights to Mexico to serve the sick and less fortunate. Our beloved Cheryl always lived the life of ten people. She never judged people based on their race, religion, politics or monetary values. When she found something special in someone, she held onto them tightly with endless generosity. Those close to her were certain that one day a published book about her life would appear as a best seller in bookstores to be followed quickly by a movie, based on her colorful life and movie star qualities. Her personal goal, should she depart, was always not to be found in a rocking chair but, rather, a "Marilyn Monroe/Queen Cheryl" floating exit with beautifully

coiffed hair and bow, lavish sparkling jewelry and make up in place. The loving family Cheryl leaves behind: Gomer Thomas, husband, daughter Kelly Lake (companion, Ron Reyer), son Kevin Lake (wife Laura Lee), along with grandchildren Tricia Wood (husband Kyle Wood), Evan Knisely and Roxanne Lake. Great grandchildren who will surely miss their GMA Cheryl are Cole, Ivory and Landon Wood. A Celebration of Life for Cheryl Zoe Thomas will be held @ 4:00 pm on September 7, at her former home in Pointe South Mountain. The family requests that donations be made in her memory to the John Gardiner Hospice Home, 1510 East Flower Street, Phoenix, AZ 85014.

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