



Dorene Smith Taylor

November 2, 1937 ~ November 15, 2013

Died unexpectedly after a courageous fight with cancer on November 15, 2013, in Salt Lake City, UT, at the age of 76. Born on November 2, 1937 in Mesa, AZ, the third of five children of Mathias Foss Cowley Smith and Cleona Olsen. Dorene grew up proud of her Mormon pioneer heritage as a descendant of Jesse N. Smith and Emma Larson. Her naturally effervescent personality made it easy for her to make friends wherever she went as her family moved from Clarkdale and Joseph City, AZ to the San Luis Valley in Colorado to New Mexico. She graduated from Farmington, NM high school in 1955, where she was a National Honor Society member and attended NM Girls' State. She was a popular cheerleader who befriended everyone and it wasn't long before her winning smile caught the eye of Bob Taylor, whom she married in 1956. She attended Brigham Young University for one year before the birth of her first child, and then devoted herself to mothering four children and providing service to others throughout her life, "a true example that 'charity never faileth.'" Wherever she lived (El Paso and Odessa, TX; Omaha, NE; Northbrook, IL; Castle Rock, CO; Salt Lake City, UT) Dorene was an active volunteer in the community and leader in her many church service positions as well as a highly esteemed retail professional, achieving the elite Pacesetter status in sales at Nordstrom Park Meadows, CO. Whether she was working as a voting election judge in Illinois, as Stake Relief Society President of the Wilmette, IL Stake, or as a dynamic personal shopper for clients at Nordstrom, Dorene was adored and admired by all for her calm effective execution of any task and her always non-judgmental character. She was an excellent athlete and played tennis until the last few months of her life, making many friends in competitive leagues around the country. She was a creative artist and fashion forward dresser who appreciated fine art, literature and design and inculcated these values in her children. She continued her own education by enrolling in online courses at BYU. In her last months, she applied her gifted eye to watercolor painting and left a legacy of beautiful art for her grandchildren. After moving recently to Salt Lake City, she became the adored favorite companion of her youngest grandson, afflicted with autism. Even in her final days she continued to devote the same energy, love and patience to his care and education, as she did in all her endeavors in life. She is survived by her loving husband, Bob; daughter, Shereen (Steve Berger); sons Bryan and David (Polly); brothers Norman, Kevan (Susan); David (Jude) and sister Linnea Barney (Ralph) and nine grandchildren; pre-deceased by her son Norman Dean and sister-in-law, Colleen.

Friends and family are invited to attend a Funeral Service on Saturday, Nov. 23, 2013 at 11:00 am at the Monument Park 17th Ward, 2795 E. Crestview Dr., Salt Lake City. A viewing will be held on Friday, Nov. 22, 2013 from 6:00-8:00 pm at the Larkin Sunset Lawn, 2350 E. 1300 S., Salt Lake City and from 10:00-10:45 am at the ward on Saturday. In lieu of flowers and in memory of Dorene Smith Taylor donations may be made to National Abilities Center <http://www.discovernac.org> which supports special education programs for children with autism spectrum disorders.