Jerrie Turner Kirk

January 27, 1929 ~ June 5, 2016

Jerrie Kirk passed away at her home on June 5, 2016, at the age of 87 due to pancreatic cancer. She was born January 27, 1929 in Milford, UT to Eugene and Mabel (Bradfield) Turner. She spent most of her childhood in southern California but returned to Milford when she was a teenager and graduated Valedictorian from Milford High School in 1946. She worked throughout high school at the White Market and after graduating from high school worked at the Milford State Bank. Jerrie married her life-time companion of 60 years, Alva J. (Al) Kirk on March 15, 1947 in Milford, UT. Jerrie continued working at the Milford State Bank, later Wells Fargo, off and on during the years she raised their 3 children. Her civic involvements included active participation in the American Legion Auxiliary, Girl Scout program, School PTA, and volunteering her talents for many years by singing in a trio at funerals, weddings, and high school proms. Her Pinochle card group met for many years on a monthly basis rotating homes with plenty of food, drinks, laughter, and fun while trying to focus on winning the game with your partner.

Jerrie and Al moved to the Salt Lake Valley in 1984 and she became actively involved with Utah Alliance for the Mentally Ill (UAMI) on behalf of her youngest son. During those years of UAMI involvement, Jerrie worked diligently on many committees in bringing awareness of mental illness and helping to de-stigmatize that disease. She served as Membership Chairwoman for several years and was instrumental in increasing the number of UAMI memberships. Also, upon moving to the Salt Lake area, Jerrie became a rabid and devoted Utah Jazz fan and, over the years, rarely missed watching a game. In fact, Jerrie made it a point to read every article she could get her hands about the Jazz and was always in the know about the latest player and coach news.

Later on she spent several years dancing with the "Young at Hearts" performing group at both summer and holiday events. The western themed outfits this group wore and the precession quality of their dances signified their professional spirit of making sure to please the audience. The fun and camaraderie of this group was an essential part of why Jerrie enjoyed her time with the "Young at Hearts".

Family was important to Jerrie and she loved her grandchildren and great-grandchildren with all her heart and soul. She was a woman of grace and beauty and never left her house without making sure she was "put together exquisitely."

Jerrie retreated from many activities after breaking her hip five years ago, but the place that became her social haven (beyond her family) was Salon Dante, where she had her hair styled every 5 days and periodic pedicures. Salon Dante staff took her under their wing and provided love and support to her even in her last week when two of the stylists came to the house to make sure her hair was cleaned and styled.

She is survived by her 3 children, Craig L. (Peggy) Kirk, Connie (Steve) Sperry, and Brad Kirk; six grandsons; 11 great -grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents and husband.

There will be a celebration of life later this summer when more family members can gather together. Contributions in memory of Jerrie can be given to Huntsman Cancer Foundation, 500 Huntsman Way, Salt Lake city, UT 84108.

She was a reserved woman who always supported the "under dog" and will be greatly missed by her family.