



Luella "Lu" Alethea Suttle

February 25, 1939 - January 31, 2018

Luella "Lu" Alethea (Lum) Suttle, 78, passed away peacefully on Jan. 31, 2018, in her home in Washington state with her daughters at her side.

Luella was born Feb. 25, 1939, in Honolulu, Hawaii, to Arthur and Alethea Lum. She was born and raised on Oahu during the time Hawaii was still a U.S. territory. She was proud of her Hawaiian heritage and of being the first graduating class of Kailua High School (Class of '57!), where she was involved in band, the school paper and yearbook, among other activities.

Luella was an island girl through and through but was drawn in 2012 to Washington state to spend more time with her youngest daughter Gestin and grandsons, whom she loved and adored. After suffering a stroke in 2013, she was able to move a year later to her own studio apartment in Burien, Wash., where she met many new, loving friends and treasured having a place of her own, with her dog Shadow and later her cockatiel Johnny. Her family remains grateful to the many people who helped Lu through this challenging time and hold a special place in their hearts for Dianne Loudon, who within weeks traveled thousands of miles across the country to provide comfort to her friend.

Luella would want you to know that she lived life her way, with no regrets. She did not shy away from doing things others might consider a bit crazy, like speeding through town with her MGB convertible(s), waiting in line all day for musical theater tickets, climbing onto her roof to fix shingles at age 70, electro-plane gliding in Vegas, riding on the inaugural voyage of the Super Ferry and being held up for hours by protesters, at first on the ship, then later on the dock, then on a shuttle bus, and still cheering them on. "When I am old I will sit in my rocking chair and laugh, because I had fun!" she would say. She loved to share her experiences and often started her stories by saying, "I had to laugh..." Luella always sought out the fun in every situation.

Pool and card player, chess enthusiast, gardener, organ player, animal lover, Internet explorer, do-it-yourself Ms. Fix It, Emerald Downs horse racing fan, hula and line dancer – Luella was truly one of a kind. She thrived in her new home in Burien and continued her tradition of helping others by cutting and styling fellow residents' hair, polishing their nails and applying fun art stickers, helping her frail neighbors and continuously fighting for justice within her community.

An imaginative entrepreneur, Luella owned her own beauty salon in Waikiki in the '70s and '80s, and went on to own other businesses, including Castle Cleaners and the online shop Gifts-n-Stuff. She never shied away from exploring fun and unusual opportunities. She was an "extra" on Hawaii Five-0 and the Little People Show with Brian Keith, and she and her close friend Brenda (Murphy) Miller created the Royal Menagerie, which performed as dancing animal characters at concerts and in parades with the Royal Hawaiian Band. (The duo also enjoyed traipsing through the bars in Chinatown—in costume!) She spent much of her time in Hawaii enjoying country line dancing and visiting relatives and hosting parties, especially Christmas and New Year's Eve. Lu was also socially active, picketing for causes she believed in, and with her best friend Wailani Broad started the first safety community connection in Kailua. She was proud when she finally owned her own home and of being a multi-property owner. She had a persistent faith in God and looked forward to what awaited her after leaving her earthly home.

Luella loved and lived life to the fullest! No matter what challenges she faced, she would always laugh and remain positive, always moved forward. She will be remembered as a survivor who was compassionate, generous, loving, happy, full of life and so very kind. Lu is survived by daughters Morgan K. Suttle Peterside (Emmanuel) and Gestin K. Suttle Skaggs (Loren); grandsons Cameron and Benjamin ("Valentine") Skaggs. She also leaves behind Bruce Suttle, her husband of 16 years and the father of her children, as well as her brothers Francis and Donald Lum, nieces, nephews, cousins and other dear family members and treasured friends. (And her cockatiel Johnny.)

Family and friends are invited to Kailua Beach on June 24, 2018, to join Lu's ohana as they release her ashes to the warm waters of her 'aina, in the playground of the honu. Our canoes will depart at 9 a.m. from Kailua Beach, (near the old concession stand, not the boat ramp side); a few seats will be available on the canoes, but you are welcome to bring your own vessel. A gathering on the beach (boat ramp side) will follow, at 10 a.m. A private family gathering will take place at 1 p.m. in Kaneohe.

Mom, Mama, Mommy, Tutu, Auntie, Cousin, Sistah, Lulabelle, Sweet Lulu—we love you through eternity. Aloha `oe; until we meet again.

The family suggests the best way to perpetuate Luella's memory is to sing, dance, raise a glass and party – and share kindness and love wherever you can.

Comments



“ 1 file added to the album Celebrating Lu!



Gestin - June 26, 2018 at 01:35 PM



“ Lu always threw the greatest parties at her house and as a child these were the greatest times of my young life to be there and the singing and hula and da drinking everybody was so happy being together . I loved helping her when I was older and knew how to do things for her . Aloha O'e Lu until we meet again your in our hearts forever. And Aloha from the Andrade Family .

Robert Andrade - June 14, 2018 at 12:10 AM



“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



Robert Andrade - June 13, 2018 at 11:17 PM



“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



Robert Andrade - June 13, 2018 at 11:17 PM



“ Aunty Lu, I am so glad I got to spend s one time with you before you continue on your journey beyond. I will always remember your passion, gentleness, bright smile and most of all your SPUNK!! You always made me smile !! Love Ya, until we meet again, Aloha Lori Mc Dade.



Lori Mc Dade - June 13, 2018 at 12:38 AM