

It is with a sad heart that I let you know that Mom, Rita Dallas Palmer, passed away suddenly on July 5, 2013. I know she is watching down on all of us and she is keeping Dad in line in heaven! At her request there will be no service, she wanted you to all think of her fondly and have a glass of wine in her honor.

My niece did a nice video tribute to her if anyone is interested in seeing it the link is :

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9dwZKpItNoo&feature=share

Rita Dallas Palmer died peacefully with her family at her side in Rancho Mirage, CA on July 5, 2013 after a very brief illness. Rita was born in Port Arthur, Ontario, Canada on Sept 1, 1924 to Joseph and Laura Perciante Dallas (D'Alessandro). Rita graduated from Port Arthur Collegiate and became an Executive Secretary with the Port Arthur shipyards. Rita's love and expertise of dance, music and ice skating led her to audition for Ice Follies in 1944. At that time Ice Capades and Ice Follies had created a joint show called Ice Cycles and Rita was asked to join Ice Cycles as Principal Skater and line captain. She met her husband Richard H. Palmer who was then Stage Manager and Lighting Director of Ice Cycles. They were married on April 10, 1947 in Rochester Minnesota during a break in the show. Rita and Dick travelled full time with the Ice Cycles which later became an additional company of Ice Capades, throughout the United States, Canada, Mexico, Europe, Asia the Middle East and Russia. Rita and Dick had two children, Dianne and Pattie who travelled with them. Rita was an amazing woman. It was nothing for her to rehearse the show all day, make corrections to the current show at night and then after the show, teach the skaters next year's show. All this while raising 2 children on the road. They travelled all over the world and Rita was respected and known wherever she went.