

### LILYA FORSYTHE SMITH



Lilya Mailelani Forsythe-Smith, 78, of Jacksonville, passed away peacefully April 19, 2024 at her daughter's home in Bryceville. She was born April 7, 1946, in Chicago, Illinois to the late George Eldredge Forsythe and Leah Bernice Monson-Forsythe. In Lilya's younger years, she helped with the family business hosting, catering and entertaining luaus for prominent elites traveling from Hawaii to Mainland U.S. and even to the White House. She studied real estate and enjoyed modeling.

Later in life, Lilya's focus was on her family and raising her children. For several years, Lilya worked with the Boy Scouts of America. She helped with starting new Local Chapters, re-wrote the Boy Scout manual, and organized local events. Lilya loved the holidays, especially Christmas. She expressed her love by cooking her father's special Hawaiian chicken and a ham for Christmas dinner. Lilya adored her father and it stood as a constant reminder of her memories and the love she had for him. Lilya was a hardworking, caring woman that was always willing to lend a hand to help in any way or simply to be a listening ear. She will be missed dearly by all who had the honor of knowing her. Lilya is preceded in death by her parents; sister Eulani "Lani" Joyce Forsythe; and daughter RaeAnna Lea McEachern.

Lilya leaves behind her loving daughters Dawn Michelle Wrye and Laura Mahealani Rattz; sister Georgeanne "Lulu" Lulunoelani Forsythe; grandchildren Amber Grace Bennie, Jade David Earl Matteson, Jayleen Seabrea Parrott, Jason Sean Rattz, Jesse Aaron McEachern and Breanna Lea McEachern; great-grandchildren Damen Reese Sheffield, Dakota Blaze Sheffield and Dalilah Star Sheffield; nephews Mel Warren Funk and Daryl Gordon Funk; and niece Michele Denise Kohl.

A memorial service for Lilya was held Friday, May 3 at Nassau Funeral Home.

Arrangements under the direction of Nassau Funeral Home, Callahan, 904-879-1770.

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