



## Osa McNeely Tilman

April 13, 2015

### Obituary of Osa Tilman

Osa McNeely Tilman passed away peacefully on April 13th, 2015 at the Cornerstone Hospice House in The Villages. She courageously battled leukemia for the last 20 months, her journey strengthened by her faith and optimism.

Osa was born in 1937 in Glendale, CA. Her family moved to Natchez, MS, her father's home, when she was 7. She graduated from Louisiana State University in 1958 and

met and married husband Dean in New Orleans in 1963. They raised their two sons, Matthew and Dean, in Jacksonville and after retirement moved to Destin, FL for 5 years before moving to The Villages in 2005.

Osa treasured her membership in the Villages Cheerleaders and the Silver Rockettes. She was a member of the North Lake Presbyterian Church and the Daughters of the American Revolution (Custer Co. NE). She also loved her annual trips to the Pacific beaches of Costa Rica with close friends.

Osa was blessed to have many devoted friends who were always in close touch with her throughout her cancer journey. She enjoyed playing golf and participating in dance and exercise classes as well as reading and listening to music every day. Traveling and taking cruises with friends were also a highlight of her life.

Osa is survived by her beloved husband of 51 years, Dean Tilman III, and their two sons Dean IV (his wife Cathy), Matthew (his wife Barbie), and their five cherished grandchildren Gracie, Nickel, Lucy, Pressly, and Lila. She also leaves behind her brother Tom McNeely, half brothers Don and Joe McNeely, and half sister Jaime Graham.

A memorial service will be held at North Lake Presbyterian Church in The Villages on Wednesday April 22nd at 11am followed by a Celebration of Life at The Waterfront Inn. In lieu of flowers the family is requesting that donations be made to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society or a charity of one's choice.

# Tribute Wall

LM

“ In reviewing old travels and updating contacts, I was so sorry to see news of your wife's passing Dean. We met a dozen years ago in Costa Rica and you were both so generous and engaging. Sending you our warmest wishes.

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**Liz Miller** - September 21, 2020 at 03:02 PM

LD

“ We all were just having lunch a few weeks ago at Codys. Osa you have a lot of friends and you will be missed. You never complained and was always sweet. One of the original "Chico's" girls. Rest in Peace.

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**Lyn Dickey** - April 22, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ May love and peace be with you during this tough time. Have comfort knowing that Osa will continue to give you guidance and love from above. Love and prayer- The mueller family

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**Melinda and Jeff Mueller** - April 21, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ I often told Osa that I was sending angel blessings to her and now she is with those angels. Today, in our jazzercise class, we did one of her favorite routines called, Just The Way You Are in her honor. In the song it says "you're amazing just the way you are" and that truly was Osa; a wonderful, positive and truly inspiring soul who touched many.

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**Joan Brennan** - April 20, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LJ

“ Dear God, Bless this sweet, sweet soul! Dean, Bob and I are so very sorry to hear the news. We so loved Osa and her pure spirit. Bless you and your entire family, Love, Lorre & Bob

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**Lorre James** - April 20, 2015 at 12:00 AM

PW

“ Good morning Dean. I was sad to read about your dear wife's passing and wanted you to know my thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time. May God sustain you. Sincerely, Paul Wood

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**Paul Wood** - April 19, 2015 at 12:00 AM

PC

“ Dear Dean and Family, Please accept our sincere condolences for passing of your dear and wonderful Osa. She was an elegant, delightful woman who brighten our lives with her grace. You both fought a terrible disease with dignity and grit. As you go into the future all of the wonderful memories of your lives together will give you all solace and wisdom.

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**Pat & Jim Coupar** - April 18, 2015 at 12:00 AM

GT

“ ###GESTURE###

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**Gina taylor** - April 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

ST

“ I am so very sorry to hear about your mom. She was a wonderful lady! My thoughts and prayers are with the whole Tilman family. God Bless you all.

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**Suzy Swift Talarico** - April 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

GT

“ My prayers for the entire Tilman family, friends and loved ones; for peace & comfort. God bless each of you. I'm so sorry for the loss of such a magnificent woman.

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**Gina Taylor** - April 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

GT

“ Osa McNeely Tilman

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**Gina Taylor** - April 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

HW

“ Dean, I want to express my condolences for your loss of Osa, she was in the class of 54 at Natchez High School and I was in the class of 55. She was a very sweet and pretty young girl and had so many friends who will miss her. I remember her as being very quiet and polite. Hall Wilson

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**Hall Wilson** - April 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CN

“ Osa was loved by her Nebraska family whom she visited regularly. Osa's Mother Julia and Julia's Sister Mabel welcomed Osa, Husband Dean, and family on their return trips to Nebraska until their respective passings. Osa's Cousin's and extended Family continued enjoying meeting for Family gatherings in Nebraska. Osa was an inspiration to us all, she will be missed!

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**Cindy Fisher Nekuda** - April 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CK

“ Bill and I were so sad to hear of Osa's passing. She was such a special lady. I remember living across the street from them and watching our kids grow up together. She is in heaven for sure!!

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**Carney Kirtley** - April 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

NA

“ *I'm Scott Andersons mother and was lucky enough to meet Osa during my recent visit to the Villages. She was the most gracious and brave lady*

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**Nancy Anderson** - April 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MC

“ *Matt, we are so sad to hear about your Mom's passing. She sounds like a strong woman who lived a beautiful, storied life. My her soul travel with you wherever you are.*

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**Melissa and Bob Cooper** - April 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM



“ *Osa McNeely Tilman*

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April 15, 2015 at 12:00 AM