



Theadora (Teddy) Sue Palmer

January 3, 1945 - October 20, 2024

On Sunday, October 20th, Theadora (Teddy) Sue Palmer ran barefoot into heaven. We are sure that the horns were blowing as her greyhounds, horses, and family rejoiced at her arrival.

Theadora was born ass backwards on January 3rd, 1945, to Ted and Ruth Saum of Springdale, AR. "Little Ted" was a force to be reckoned with. Not much for frilly dresses and proper southern etiquette, she preferred to tear off her church clothes and run around barefoot with her hunting dog, Trigger. Her daddy taught her to shoot a gun better than any boy, to ride a horse bareback, barrel race, and gamble occasionally. Thank goodness they had her angel mom, Ruth, to keep them both in line.

Teddy graduated from Springdale High School in 1963. She attended State Teachers College, where she festooned the halls and eventually earned her master's degree. One day, cruising the streets in her Ford Mustang, she ran into Russell Roy Palmer of Springdale, AR. They quickly fell in love and were married on August 27th of 1967. She traveled the world with Russ and was a proud Air Force Wife. Officer's wives were not supposed to work back then, but Teddy was never one for following the rules. She started a small school for handicap children while they were in Spain and stashed away her money in her favorite books.

The happy couple eventually settled in Tulsa, OK. Teddy worked for American

Airlines, then Getty Oil Company, and eventually became an exceptional Human Resource Manager for the City of Tulsa. They had two children, Triere and Andrew Palmer.

Sometime in the late 90's, Teddy fell in love with greyhound dogs. After learning about the horrible way retired racing dogs were treated, she started fostering and adopting as many greyhounds as she could fit in her house. She never did anything small, so she decided to go ahead and retire herself so that she could devote all her energy and resources into greyhound rescue. She moved to the country and built a state-of-the-art kennel with her own money so that she could take on more. She founded Halfway Home Greyhound Adoption in 2002 and, at last count, had rescued 8,500 greyhounds.

Unfortunately, as Teddy aged, she battled aggressive dementia. When it got bad, her daughter moved her to Columbia, MO so that she could be close to her husband and family. In memory care, Teddy was every bit as feisty and incredible as she had always been. She was the life of the party! She would offer a story, a stolen quilt, or the shirt off her neighbor's back to anyone who came around. The impact that she had in her final years was incredible to witness. She was so loved by the staff and residents alike. The family would like to thank Mill Creek Arbors for the love and care that went above and beyond.

Teddy is survived by her husband, Russ Palmer; her daughter and son-in-law, Triere and Brandon Boyer; her son and daughter-in-law, Andrew and Angela Palmer; five grandchildren (Coehn, Brylee, Aieyden, Kaysen, and Kyngsten); and many friends.

We will lay our greyhound whispering cowgirl to rest with a graveside service at 2 pm on Saturday, October 26th, 2024, at Bluff Cemetery in Springdale, AR.

Private viewing will be available at Sisco Funeral Chapel starting at 1 pm the day of her service, followed by a procession to the cemetery.

Cemetery Details

Bluff Cemetery

795 N. Shiloh Street
Springdale, AR 72764

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **26**. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Sisco Funeral Chapel
705 West Meadow
Springdale, AR 72764
(479) 751-4577
siscofuneralchapel@gmail.com
<https://www.siscofuneral.com>

Graveside Funeral Service

OCT **26**. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

Bluff Cemetery
795 N. Shiloh Street
Springdale, AR 72764

Tribute Wall



“ *Big Sam (I think its the Grey there on Teddys right side) is the father of my heart Dog Torko (he is a happy 9.5 year old now). I am so blessed, that she wrote with me and sent me pics of Big Sam and I heard the story. It made our family somehow a bit bigger on the very best side of life, feeling the love and dedication. I am very proud and honered to feel this connection. And having a son of big sam that cought Teddy's love. So sorry. I will never forget and feel so thankful for what she was and did even though I did not know her. Thank you Teddy, it really meand alot <3 !*

Lonja Schmid - October 28, 2024 at 04:09 PM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Theadora (Teddy) Sue Palmer.*

October 24, 2024 at 11:33 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Theadora (Teddy) Sue Palmer.*



October 24, 2024 at 11:33 PM

DS

“ 3 files added to the album Friends



Danetta Steinmeyer - October 24, 2024 at 10:00 PM

DS

“ Danetta Steinmeyer planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Theadora (Teddy) Sue Palmer.

Danetta Steinmeyer - October 24, 2024 at 09:55 PM

DS

“ Danetta Steinmeyer purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Theadora (Teddy) Sue Palmer.



Danetta Steinmeyer - October 24, 2024 at 09:55 PM

DS

“*Teddy is a legend in the greyhound world. She fostered our first greyhound Beth. We adopted through her before she started Halfway Home. I helped her get it started from her Tulsa home. We picked up dogs from farms, made hauls across the country to deliver them to other groups and set up fundraisers. We spent many miles together and made a lot of memories and friendships along the way. She was my mentor, my friend and my other mother. More th2 decades of friendship comes to a close but the memories will live in our hearts forever. I promised her if she ever needed me to I would care for her last personal greyhound. JW Teddy Palmer is loved and cared for in our home just as Teddy wanted. Say hello to all our hounds and we'll see you on the other side.*”

Danetta Steinmeyer - October 24, 2024 at 09:46 PM



“*RIP Teddy. It's time for you to be with your mother and father again and the rest of our family. I'll never forget my time on the farm. It is some of my favorite memories.*”

Philip Rogich - October 24, 2024 at 01:48 PM

IM

“*We adopted Too Cool Cathi through Teddy -- a twice retired girl. She was a winner in racing and then a brood mama. Teddy was so kind handing over one of her beautiful rescues to us. She was remarkable woman and I only saw a tiny facet of her amazing life!*”

Ilenya Marrin - October 23, 2024 at 08:46 PM

BO

*My heart goes out to Russ and the kids💔
Teddy was one in a million. No matter how tired we got working on the dog hauls, we always had a good time. Teddy I've been told we have a portal in the home. Feel free to stay on the couch anytime 💜*

Bonnie - October 23, 2024 at 09:37 PM

MB

Wow, what to say about a legend. Teddy and I worked together for years with Greyhound Pets of America and then she found me Greys long after that for me to love and cherish. She is missed and will be remembered always.

Martha Bright - October 24, 2024 at 12:24 PM

JS

Teddy was an amazing lady, I worked with her placing greyhounds, and she helped me get my last girl. I will always remember her for all her great work and her friendship—she with her family that has passed and all her Greys. RIP Teddy

Jill Schmidt - December 07, 2024 at 02:54 PM