

## Pilar Hale Obituary

Published by Legacy Remembers on Jul. 3, 2024.

On June 20, 2024, Pilar Hale, 89, of Torrance, CA passed away peacefully after a sudden diagnosis of an aggressive brain tumor. Pilar was born Edine Elizabeth Hornbuckle on August 28, 1934, in Nashville, Tennessee, to Jane and Edward Hornbuckle. She graduated from Hillsboro High School in Nashville, where she was fondly known as Deanie Hornbuckle.

After graduating high school, Pilar attended Vanderbilt University for two years. In 1955, she embarked on a career as a stewardess with American Airlines, during which time she was known as Dee Hornbuckle. In December 1957, she married Richard Maxey. At that time, stewardesses could not be married, so she left American Airlines and became a housewife. Dee and Richard had two children, Christopher and Elizabeth Maxey. Following her divorce from Richard in 1967, she adopted the name Pilar H. Hale, a name she cherished for the rest of her life. Pilar returned to school and earned her Bachelor's degree from Cal State Fullerton. She then spent about 30 years working in the defense industry, retiring in 1997. In 1984, she married the true love of her life, John Simmons, and they remained happily married until his death in 2011.

Pilar was active in The Kiwi Club (a group of retired American Airlines flight attendants). She was also an active member of the American Association of University Women, The Palos Verdes Art Center, The Peninsula Committee for the Los Angeles Philharmonic, and The Affinity Group (A volunteer center in South Bay-Harbor-Long Beach). She was also a past member of Las Candalistas. Pilar and John were proud supporters of the Norris theater and twice she chaired the annual Valentine Ball.

Pilar had a love for travel and at the time of her death she had visited more than fifty countries, including all seven continents. She also visited several different islands around the world.

Pilar was preceded in death by her son Christopher who was killed in an accident in 1978. She is survived by her daughter, Elizabeth Peace of Las Vegas, NV and her beloved grandson, Kevin Peace, and his wife, Decia, of Acworth, GA.

Please join us for the celebration of life for Pilar on August 6, 2024 at the Szechwan Restaurant in Lomita, CA at 2 PM. For more information and to RSVP, please reach out to Kevin at [kevinapeace1@gmail.com](mailto:kevinapeace1@gmail.com). Her final resting place will be Fairhaven Memorial Park & Mortuary in Santa Ana, CA. In lieu of flowers, you may honor Pilar's memory at [St. Jude Children's Research Hospital](#) or at the [Peninsula Committee for the Los Angeles Philharmonic \(PCLAP\) School Music Program](#), Attn: Monica McAllister, P.O. Box 2122, Palos Verdes Peninsula 90274.

