

Frances (Montgomery) Achenbach



***Our beautiful mother left our arms on Sunday
June 1st, 2008 after an extended illness.***

Born at St. Joseph's Hospital on January 10th, 1938 to Cassie Leona Montgomery, our mother lived her entire life in Phoenix. As 1 of 6 children, my mother learned early the meaning of family and the art of giving to others. Despite her early hardships and constant pain in later years, our mother lived her life with grace, dignity and love. She never judged, giving everyone a chance, even when they may not have deserved it. You always knew where you stood with mom, she was tough but fair. A generous person who often wore her heart on her sleeve, she was charitable, kind and giving, qualities that made her a natural mother. Our mom spent her life making memories for her children and grandchildren. The camping and fishing trips with our dad and as children, unbelievable Christmas mornings.

Although mom loved to travel, going to Europe twice, Canada, Bahamas and treks across the United States, she loved being home even more. She shared her love of life with her 3 children, Ray, Danny and Bobbie Anderson-Moody. She taught valuable life lessons to her grandchildren Julia Achenbach, Ian Riddle and Christopher Tauber.

Although our mother never attended college, she was our doctor, counselor, personal chef, babysitter, entertainer and whatever else we needed her to be. She put bandages on scratched knees and treated our childhood ailments. She was a great listener and helped heal many wounded hearts. She made unbelievable meals that will be impossible to duplicate. Her home was always open to those that needed shelter.

Throughout our life, we shared our mother with numerous extended family and friends. She enjoyed visits with her sister Jo Nell, and a friendship spanning more than 60 years with Willa. She liked to stay up late, playing cards and Wii bowling with Evie, these small things added quality to our mother's life. She laughed with her son-n-law Bruce Moody and shared memories of early Phoenix. It was with both their help that my brothers and I were able to keep our mother at home surrounded by the people and things that brought meaning to her life. Thank you so much for this.

We would like to express our thanks to the nurses at JC Lincoln Deer Valley Hospital for the wonderful care our mother received over the past few months, and to Angela in CCU, thank you for caring for my mother and for us. Dr. Patrick Sciara, you are our blessing from above, thank you so very much for your compassion and caring touch, you gave us extra days with our mother that we may not have otherwise had. Dr. William T Holland, perhaps the only doctor that our mother could talk back to and get away with it, that comes from a relationship spanning more than 20 years. Thank you for your insightfulness, caring touch and dedication in providing our mother with the best medical care possible. And to numerous others, thank you for loving our mother.

Our mother lived life on her own terms, "it's just that simple."

We are heartbroken that our mother is gone, but know that one day we will see her again. We love you mom, and will miss you forever, "it's just that simple."

Graveside services will be held on Saturday June 21st, 2008 at 10:30am at Greenwood Memory Lawn 719 N. 27th Ave, Phoenix, Arizona.