

# Juanita D. Schiltz

July 7, 1927- November 25, 2007

### Juanita Shiltz - A Biography by Nancy Gallagher

(reprinted from the April 2007 isssue of the Oahu League of Republican Women Newsletter.)

Juanita and I have a couple of things in common. First, we are both Texans. And we both attended women only colleges just a couple of blocks from each other on St. Charles Ave. in New Orleans, Louisiana --- but not in the same year. Can you see Juanita Schiltz as a "Nora Belle" or a "Daisy"? These were the names being considered for her on July 7th, 19\*\*. Luckily, Daddy liked Dinah Shore's song, "Juanita". Thus a southern belle born in Dallas, Texas was named Juanita. Juanita was blessed with an idylic childhood. She grew up in a comfortable city home with her parents and one older sister.

After high school Juanita went to "Silk Stocking School" (Better known as Hockaday School for Girls) because "Daddy thought I needed "finishing". Since school was across town, Daddy gave me my first car, a Ford. At that time tires were hard to buy. It was much easier to get another car than to buy tires. I managed to go through seven (7) cars".

Hard and fast rules of etiquette were part of the school curriculum. At meal time refined young ladies were expected to wait graciously for the House Mother to start eating before they could pick up their own forks. What's more, ladies in training were to stop eating as soon as the House Mother placed her fork crosswise on her dinner plate.

Well, it seems that when the girls were in class, the House Mothers spent their time playing bridge and consuming copious amounts of food and drink. As a result, these learned and proper House Mothers were not very hungry at meal time. Ever anxious to excel, Juanita quickly mastered the exquisite skill of "eating like Hell" before it was time to daintily place her fork crosswise on her dinner plate.

On Sundays the girls were expected to attend the church of their choice. Though not Catholic, Juanita offered to drive her friends to church. The Catholic services just happened to be at the same time as the movies at the local movie house. The "church of choice" for Juanita and friends turned out to be the movie house.

Just one year later, Juanita felt "finished" and transferred to Sophie Newcomb Women's College in New Orleans. Unfortunately, after one semester at Newcomb she had to return to Texas to be closer to her ailing mother. There she enrolled at Southern Methodist University.

While pursuing a degree in journalism, Juanita was asked to teach a class in journalism. Graduating Magna Cum Laude Juanita continued teaching journalism at SMU unil she decided she wanted to be an officer in the Air Force.

(Cont. next page)

Juanita D Schiltz Born July 7, 1927 Died November 25, 2007

Memorial Service December 5, 2007 at Punchbowl Cemetary

### **Remarks by Military Chaplain**

**Reading of Proclamations in Honor of Juanita** State Proclamaion from Gov. Linda Lingle City Proclamation from Councilman Charles D'jou

#### **Military Honors**

The proceeds from Juanita's estate will be donated to Southern Methodist University to endow a journalism scholarship in the names of **Edward**, **Daisy and Earline Schiltz**.

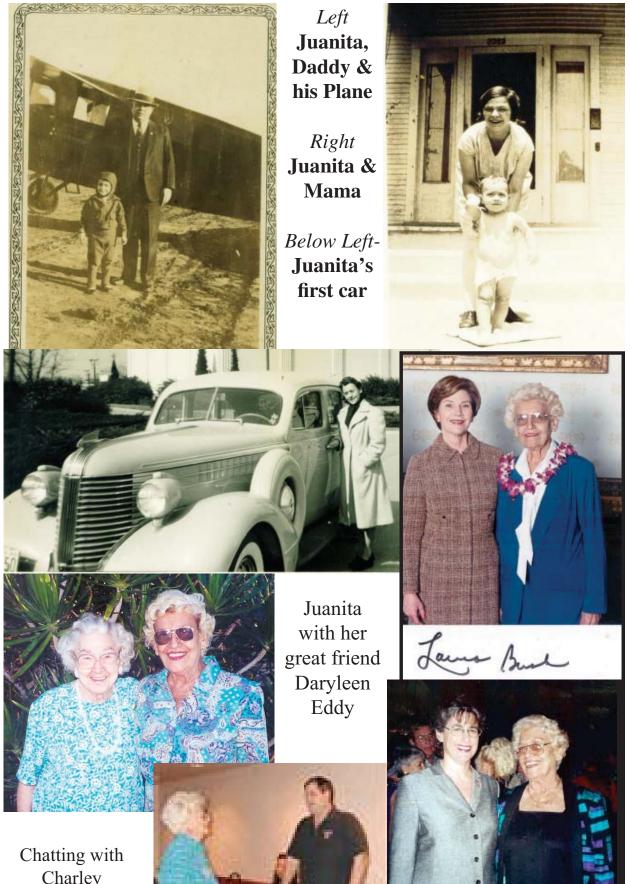
Juanita's final resting place will be with her beloved Father, Mother and Sister in Grove Hill Memorial Park Cemetery in Dallas, Texas

## Biography (cont)

When she found that women were not accepted into commissioned officer programs regardless of their education, undeterred, she enlisted as a private first class. In 11 months she was commissioned as a second lieutenant and ordered to Roswell, New Mexico. The Air Force was right in the middle of the infamous UFO controversy. Sworn to secrecy, Juanita will not discuss her work at Rosewell. I'm thinking that when the aliens asked to be "taken to your leader" Juanita probably filled that position.....

Looking over her 22 years in the Air Force, she considers being chosen to attend Information Officer's School at Boston University as her greatest honor. Then a Captain, our girl naturally graduated with honors.

Ending her military career at Hickam AFB Major Juanita D. Schiltz retired. In retirement she sold real estate and joined several service organizations. She has been Commandant of the Military Order of World War Veterans Organization and President of the National Federation of Republican Women. For many years the members looked forward to Juanita's "Thought of the Day" at the monthly Oahu League of Republican Women Luncheon.



Charley Meminger at the OLRW March Meeting

Juanita at an event with Governor Linda Lingle