



Cynthia Lou "Cindy" Dowies

February 23, 1955 - June 26, 2011

Private pilot, Cynthia (Cindy) Lou Dowies has gone west. She passed away June 26, 2011 at M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, surrounded by family and a host of friends who loved her. Cindy was born February 23, 1955 in Beaumont, Texas. Cindy grew up in Orange, Texas and graduated from West Orange High School. She played for the Ladyjacks basketball team at SFA State University and graduated from Lamar University. At the time of her death, she lived on Lake Conroe and embraced her "lake woman" life. She loved laughing, boating, flying and playing Texas Hold 'Em.

Cindy began her career with Continental Insurance Company in January of 1980. After training, Cindy was promoted to an outside property adjuster handling a territory in southeast Texas. After 5 years in the field, she moved into supervisory and management positions in the Dallas Branch and Regional offices. In conjunction with her supervisory and management roles, Cindy was heavily involved in Catastrophe Management, setting up and running numerous catastrophe offices across the United States. In 1992, Cindy was awarded the Chairman's Award, the highest award within Continental, for her work in setting up and managing storm offices for Hurricanes Andrew and Iniki.

Cindy moved into her current position as a general adjuster in 1996 and was promoted to Executive General Adjuster in 2008 where she handled large, complex property losses within CNA's Large Loss Organization.

Cindy was preceded in death by her nephew, Daniel Dowies.

Cindy is survived by her parents James and Thelma Dowies; her sister Pam Owens and husband Randy; her brother Jimmy Dowies and wife Mimi; her nephews, David Dowies, James Dowies, Samuel Owens and Joseph Owens; her niece, Rachel Owens; and her best friend and companion, Angela Whorton.

The family wishes to thank the doctors and staff at M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, especially Laurel Hyle, and Sue Horne for her help during Cindy's brief illness.

A celebration of Cindy's life will be held at Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home, 20850 Eva St., Montgomery, Texas on Saturday, July 2, at 4:00 p.m. In lieu of flowers the family asks that donations be made in her name to Habitat for Humanity or charity of your choice. You are invited to leave memorial condolences to the family on our website at www.shmfh.com.

Tribute Wall



“ *Cynthia Lou "Cindy" Dowies*

November 15, 2022 at 08:33 PM



“ *A year has passed and I still miss Cindy. Guess I always will. I know I "speak" for more than myself as I write this. She was a special gift and I am a better person and school teacher for having known her.*

July 01, 2012 at 04:24 PM



“ *There is not a day that I do not think of Cindy and miss her so very much as I know all of those whose life she touched must feel. Cindy taught me many life lessons during her time on this earth and I have learned perhaps even more from her death. She was a true friend and I feel so blessed to have been a part of her life for 30+ years. My hope would be that everyone could have a friend like Cindy!!*

Sue Horne - October 17, 2011 at 02:16 PM



“ *We are so sorry to hear of your Cindy's death. May God comfort you in His special way. Sounds like her life was filled with many wonderful moments. Please know you all are in our hearts and prayers.*

Myra & Alan Sanders - July 11, 2011 at 12:13 PM

SC

“ *Dear Thelma Lou...
I am so sorry to hear of Cindy's passing. You and your family will be
in my thoughts and prayers.
Sherry Combs*

Sherry Combs - July 07, 2011 at 06:33 PM

GS

“ *My thoughts and prayers to Cindy's family and friends. Cindy and I
worked together at UAC and Continental and then on many claims
over the years. We studied together under Tom Upman and worked
like crazy on many storms and disasters. She always a team player
and up to the many tasks we faced over the years. She was a
"Master of Disaster" and we will all miss her.*

George Skelton - July 06, 2011 at 06:00 PM

BB

“ To the Dowies Family: No words can take the place of the loss of your daughter, sister and friend, but I want to tell you that my wife and I were so saddened to learn of this news. I first met Cindy at Lamar University, when she and 2 other women tried out for the LU Football Team. I was a track team member and she was dressed in pads the first day I saw her at the practice field. Now we all know why Cindy was the best at her profession...she had no fear! I later meet her again when she was hired on at UAC- Beaumont, Texas, after I started work there in 1978. I was assigned to help train Cindy, but we actually both learned the business together. I knew she would be a natural at any type of adjusting she pursued, because she was professional, personable, and very intelligent. I later worked as an independant adjuster with Cindy while she was regional property manager at CLA - Dallas, and again we enjoyed that working relationship...so I must say Cindy will truly be missed and the property adjusting profession will never be the same.. May God be with you all and comfort you. We will always remember Cindy.

Benny M. Brocato - July 05, 2011 at 08:32 PM

PC

“ I am so saddened to hear of Cindy's passing. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. May God bless and comfort each of you during this time.

Patty Frank Cloeren - July 05, 2011 at 08:28 AM

JM

“ Dear family of Cindy, Words can't express how my heart aches to hear of her passing. We had such great times in high school. Wonderful memories, always of her great smile and laughter. I'm not at all surprised at how successful and how well loved she was. She was a bright light in everyone's lives. I will miss her. God's peace to you all.

Joyce Seale Miller - July 04, 2011 at 10:17 PM

DH

“ Mrs. Dowies and family, I am sorry for your loss. You are in my thoughts and prayers.

Diane Bass Huff - July 04, 2011 at 08:38 PM

SB

“ I'm stunned! Haven't heard of or seen Cindy in many years. So glad to read that she had a successful life and career and was loved by many. So sorry that it was cut short. Sincerest condolences to you, Thelma Lou, and to the rest of your family. So sorry. Just saw this on KOGT.com and I am so glad I looked today. Prayers for all of you in such a great loss.

Sandy Beatty - July 03, 2011 at 02:50 PM

EH

“ I just got word from my brother Richard about Cindy's passing. I am so sorry to hear this. I haven't seen any of your family for so many years, but have lots of fond memories of Cindy. She was quite a character as a kid and I'm sure was lots of fun to be around as an adult. My sympathies go out to the whole family.
Love, Eileen Griffin Horton

Eileen Griffin Horton - July 03, 2011 at 02:29 PM

LG

“ I also worked with Cindy for several years at CIC/CNA. For awhile we were neighbors and she would ride her bike to visit my husband and I. I have not seen her for several years but I am stunned by her passing. She was a wonderful co-worker and friend and I am in awe of her accomplishments. It is obvious that she was very much loved and will be greatly missed.

Linda Griffin - July 02, 2011 at 08:55 PM

KT

“ I ache thinking of the loss to family and friends. My deep condolences to you. Cindy and I were Ladyjack teammates at SFA and as the only freshman, each of us from Orange County, we shared locker rooms, hotel rooms, cars and loads of laughter traveling for two years together for Coach Sue Gunter's team. As I know many others can claim, she made a difference in this life and in every sphere she touched. Godspeed, my friend. And peace to all you leave behind.

Kerry Tate

Kerry Tate - July 02, 2011 at 02:00 PM

TB

“ To the Dowies family: I am so sorry to hear of Cindy's passing and for your loss. I worked with Cindy at Continental from the beginning of her adjusting career. Could see from the beginning that she had supreme confidence in her ability to handle even the most challenging claims with little assistance.

It was not surprising to see her rise to increasingly more responsible positions over the years. She was a very special lady. So sorry I won't be able to be with you to celebrate her life on Saturday. My thoughts and prayers will be with all of you. Best wishes, Tom

Tom Burke - July 02, 2011 at 09:15 AM

NV

“ Cindy was one of my best friends in school and I have a lot of great memories that I will cherish forever. My husband and I went to Conroe a few years back and had lunch with Cindy and caught up on old times. It was great seeing her. Last summer I called and was going to try to meet up with her again but it did not work out and now I am sorry. She never forgot her friends no matter how long it had been since she saw them. Cindy will be missed by many. Mr and Mrs Dowies, Pam, Jimmy, and other family and friends you will be in my prayers that God will give you all the support you need to be able to handle this loss of such a great person* ”

Nina Derouen Vaughan - July 01, 2011 at 10:37 PM

LC

“ I am gifted with many good friends, Cindy being one of my closest and dearest friends. To really know Cindy you would have played intramural sports with her at SFA-basketball, softball, volleyball, flag football...I did, and of course with Cindy leading the team...we won. Or crabbed, swam and water-skied in the murky and somewhat ominous waterways of Orange, Texas, I did, and wonder why I did, but Cindy said it was okay, and it was. I have travelled from dusty, grassless softball fields in East Texas to the bright lights and poker tables of Las Vegas during the 38 years of my friendship with Cindy Dowies...having fun and making memories. There is no one else like her. She was one of God's best works, and one of my best friends. ”

Liz Czerewaty - July 01, 2011 at 10:15 PM

SC

“ Our thoughts and prayers for comfort and peace are with all the family and friends Cindy.

We have fond memories of Cindy and her passion for Life and Texas Holdem. She was a fierce competitor and great sport. We will miss her greatly.

Steven & Manon Carr - July 01, 2011 at 08:45 PM

CW

“ My heart goes out to the Dowies family during this difficult loss. Praying for you all.

Carolyn Tiller Wilson - July 01, 2011 at 05:51 PM

CB

“ Dear the Dowies family: I only knew Cindy a few years at CNA, but always enjoyed her sense of humor, directness and ability to get to the point in difficult circumstances. I am so very sorry for your loss and will continue to pray that you'll somehow be comforted during this difficult time. God bless.

Craig Bailey - July 01, 2011 at 02:31 PM

BS

“ I too was sad to hear that Cindy passed. I haven't seen her since high school but I recall that many times she made us all laugh in art class. I read her bio and was not surprise to see that Cindy had a full life and success. My prayers go out to her family and friends that knew her best.

Bob Sanford - July 01, 2011 at 02:30 PM

BS

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with the Dowies family. May the many wonderful memories of Cindy help ease the pain of such a great loss.*

Bob Stupica - July 01, 2011 at 02:10 PM

KO

“ *My sincere condolences go out to Cindy's family, friends and companion. Cindy was a co-worker of mine at both Continental and CNA. Cindy was my very first manager when I came to work for Continental/CNA. That was to be short-lived as she had bigger aspirations than managing the property team in Dallas. She went on to a level of talent that will be sorely missed. We've lost a wonderful co-worker, talented adjuster with vast knowledge and most of all, a good friend. Again, my sympathies to you and all who loved her.*

Karen O'Grady-Davis - July 01, 2011 at 02:08 PM

LF

“ *We are so sorry for your loss. May God grant you peace in this time of sorrow.*
Sincerely, Ben Irene and Lisa Frederick

Lisa Frederick - July 01, 2011 at 01:24 PM

JD

“ *James and Thelma Lou,*
Please except my deepest of condolences in the loss of Cindy, I am so sorry for your loss. You are in my prayers.
God Bless You,
James DuBose

James DuBose - July 01, 2011 at 01:09 PM

NB

“ Dear Mr. & Mrs Dowies and Dowies Family:

I'm so very sorry for the loss of your daughter, sister, friend & partner - I am praying for Cindy and all of you in this time of grief.

I'm one of Cindy's co-workers at CNA. I first met Cindy in 1987 when we attended the Advanced Property Training in Indianapolis. She sat next to me for the entire course. I instantly liked and respected her determination, intellect, and strong work ethic. Her determination to succeed in a very tough and stressful training course in a side of the business dominated by men was awesome and an inspiration. She was a hard worker, never afraid to climb a roof, or crawl through a burned out building.

We became friends as well as colleagues, and over the years, we would call each other just to check up and to run cases with each other to get a "second opinion". She was a very clear thinker with a very deep knowledge and experience in our business, and had a very practical approach to problem solving. I highly valued her advice and counsel.

I worked on Hurricane Iniki with her and I got to know her best when we worked Hurricane Ivan in Pensacola. She introduced me to Texas Hold 'em during long periods of down time during that project. She told me about each of you, and her love and caring for each of you just radiated forth.

Recently I've been her technical supervisor and worked with her on very large and complex claims. Her tireless work ethic, intelligence, and determination to excel was an inspiration to me and to all of us who worked with her. She had a way of getting right to the point and keeping things on track. But she also had a sometimes dry and pointed sense of humor that lightened and "refocused" many difficult meetings.

I will miss her as a good and loyal friend, and also as a respected

and trusted colleague and sometimes mentor and teacher. All of you and Cindy will remain in my prayers and memory.

Nick Bozovich - July 01, 2011 at 11:16 AM

PH

“ *My prayers and thoughts are with you. My memories of Cindy are fond and many. It appears that she made a monumental contribution through her work and I know she will be greatly missed, not only by those who knew her personally, but also by many who she touched indirectly.*

Paula Reeves Hill - July 01, 2011 at 10:55 AM

JG

“ *Dear Thelma Lou and James,
I am so sorry to hear of Cindy's passing. May God, our Heavenly Father, cover you with His Strength, Comfort and Peace, as only He can. I will continue to pray for you as you go through the days and months ahead.
Judy Gunstream*

Judy Gunstream - July 01, 2011 at 10:10 AM

DW

“ *What a privilege to know Cindy Dowies, a friend that will truly be missed. I will cherish the special time we spent on the lake, playing cards, and most of all, having great "chit chats". My heart reaches out to Angela and all of Cindy's family and friends. May we all find peace during this difficult time.*

Donna Watson - July 01, 2011 at 09:49 AM

BR

“ Dear Dowies Family,
I am so very sorry to hear of Cindy's passing. She was truly a unique individual. She was my first true friend and I thought of her often. Just the other day I was sharing with my children & grandchildren about the wonderful time Cindy & I had at Camp Fort Apache. We both loved sports more than anything in the world. And though we were separated when my family moved to BC, we were still able to stay in touch through Sunday School. She was one of the reasons I continued to go to church and often witnessed to me. Guess she thought I could use it. I sometimes thought of her as my guardian angel because she always steered me in the right direction. I lost touch after we graduated but she was always in my fondest memories of my youth in Orange, TX. I pray GOD will grant you each peace as you journey on without her. This world could surely use more Cindy Dowies'

Becky Hall Rutledge - July 01, 2011 at 12:04 AM

KR

“ My thoughts and prayers go out to the entire family, God bless yall.

Ken Reeves - June 30, 2011 at 11:09 PM

KS

“ I have not seen Cindy since High School but have lots of fun memories tucked away. Her smile was contagious.

May you be comforted by God during this very difficult time.

Kaye Dean Sims - June 30, 2011 at 11:08 PM

EP

“ Praying that God will comfort you as you grieve Cindy's passing.
May God give you the grace you need to press on.
Sincerely,
Eddie Price

Eddie Price - June 30, 2011 at 10:13 PM

LF

“ The Dowies family has always held a special place in my heart,
from a special part of my past. Our thoughts and prayers are with
you in this time of grief.

Lance Frederick - June 30, 2011 at 10:01 PM

LL

“ Dear Dowies Family,
My condolences for your loss. Sending love and prayers your way.
Love, Lori

Lori Frederick Lindner - June 30, 2011 at 07:49 PM

GM

“ I was, and still am stunned to hear the news about Cindy. I had the
pleasure of working with her throughout many, many years with
CIC/CNA. We shared lots of laughs and stories about Beaumont,
where my parents also grew up. I last visited with Cindy a few years
ago when she flew up to Ft. Worth to visit Leon Russell. She was
my friend and I'll miss her. My condolences to her family and
friends.

George Murphy - June 30, 2011 at 04:30 PM

MF

“ I've known Cindy for most of her career with Continental and CNA. She was a super sharp Adjuster who handled just about every kind of property claim you can imagine. And she did so with her vast knowledge and professionalism receiving some of the highest accolades bestowed by Continental and CNA. But above all, she was a genuinely nice person, one who will be missed by so many.

Mike Foster - June 30, 2011 at 01:53 PM

TL

“ I am truly sorry to hear of Cindy's passing. Even though I haven't seen her in several years, just saying her name makes me smile...She was one of a kind and will be missed by many. She made our lives fuller for knowing her.

Tommye Lanham - June 30, 2011 at 10:51 AM

DM

“ I have worked with Cindy since 1976, first in Beaumont, then in Dallas. She was just FUN. I will miss her. My thoughts and prayers are with you.

Donna McCullough - June 30, 2011 at 10:51 AM

DK

“ Cindy was one of those rare individuals you run across in life that leave you with a positive lasting impression. No words can express our sorrow or fill the void. We are left with memories, thankfully.

Dale Kennedy - June 30, 2011 at 10:48 AM

JD

“ We were so saddened to hear about Cindy's passing. We knew Cindy and Angela when we lived on Lake Conroe. She was a wonderful person and she will be missed dearly. We are thinking of Angela and Cindy's family during this very difficult time. "Although it's difficult today to see beyond the sorrow, may looking back in memory help comfort you tomorrow".

David and Janine Shefferly

Janine & David Shefferly - June 30, 2011 at 10:03 AM

KM

“ I worked with Cindy on only a few occasions over the past several years but on those occasions I was struck by her knowledge, confidence, and sense of humor. She will be missed. My thoughts and prayers are with Cindy's friends and family during this difficult time. God Bless.

Kevin Monroe - June 29, 2011 at 05:46 PM

DM

“ I will truly miss Cindy. I have worked with Cindy for many years. She was a wonderful person and she will be sadly missed by all of us. My prayers and thoughts are with Cindy's family and friends.

Deborah McFerrin - June 29, 2011 at 04:09 PM

JH

“ We are truly saddened by Cindy's death. Her passing will not only leave a void in the lives of many, but also in the hearts of everyone who knew her.

Jackie & Rob Howard - June 28, 2011 at 09:23 PM

JC

“ *I'm truly sorry to hear of Cindy's passing. I met Cindy at SFA and always enjoyed her company. May God be with all of us in this time of grief.*

Janice Cobble - June 28, 2011 at 08:03 PM

DE

“ *My thoughts and prayers go out to the family and friends of Cindy. Such a shock and hard to understand. I know she will be missed.*

Diane

Diane M Ellison - June 28, 2011 at 12:47 PM