



Andrei Zeljko Pauzer

February 21, 2021

September 8, 1937 - February 21, 2021

Andrei passed away peacefully holding hands with his beloved wife Irene after a number of years of illness. He had a life filled with adventure across many continents. Andrei will be remembered for his kindness, hard work, independence, which some might call stubbornness, and his sense of humour and love of life. He spoke multiple languages, could recite Shakespeare with ease and made friends with every cat he ever met.

Andrei was born in Novoselec, Croatia and spent his early years in a partisan camp as his parents fought with Tito against the Nazis. After the war he began attending a youth theatre program in Zagreb and by age 17 was playing the lead role of Romeo, in the Shakespearean tragedy and entered the Academy of Dramatic Art, starting his lifelong love affair with theatre and the arts. Despite his stateless status, Andrei's uncle sponsored him to go to Australia where he spent five years during which he acted in the first cigarette commercial filmed in Australia and graduated from the International College of Hotel Management after which he joined the Hilton organization and worked at the Sydney Hilton. He returned to Europe to manage the USA's Officers Mess in Berlin and then joined the management team at the London Hilton, while still working as an actor on many famous shoots, including The Beatles "Help". They weren't necessarily big parts, but they were fun times. He met

many celebrities during this time and once had to chase down Zsa Zsa Gabor after she left the London Hilton without paying her bill only to have her wave him off saying “Send it to Conrad, darling”.

Andrei moved to Canada in 1967 and continued his career in the hospitality industry opening and managing many hotels, restaurants and bars, but his love of theatre never left him, and he returned to the arts in 1979 opening his own agency representing actors, writers and directors in theatre, film and television. He had a great gift for business and at the same time a great love and sensitivity for the arts.

Andrei will be sorely missed by his wife Irene and they would have celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary in the spring of 2021. They married in 1976 in Las Vegas in matching cowboy/cowgirl attire to celebrate the occasion. He will also be sadly missed by his extended family and dear friends who understood his kind, caring nature and delighted in many shared adventures, moments of hilarity, and laughter at his funny, corny and sometimes really silly jokes. He was truly one of a kind and he will be dearly missed.

In view of Covid restrictions, a Celebration of Life will take place at a later time when we can all gather safely to remember and celebrate Andrei. If you feel so moved, please consider a donation to a charity in memory of Andrei. Donations to kensingtonhealth.org, who provided such kind care to Andrei over the last four years, or any animal care or cat rescue charity would be appreciated.

Tribute Wall

MA

“ *Andrei was kind, generous, and wickedly funny. Whether he was loitering in the Ryerson Theatre lobby with a mischievous grin on his face, smuggling restaurant cutlery in the inner pocket of his blazer, or eating the whipped cream of two desserts after lunch, Andrei knew how to make any situation merry. I'll miss our flock lunches and our peaceful Kensington visits. Here's to you, Andrei – I'll eat a lemon square for us both.*

Madeleine - March 01, 2021 at 05:52 PM

MH

“ *Dear Irene, I read with sadness the news of Andrei's death. Remembering him and the early days of his work as an agent has brought back many happy memories. He was a kind, funny, thoughtful and spirited man who was supportive of me as a young actress, and as a person. I was fortunate to know and work with him for a while and will be forever grateful. With sincere condolences on your loss,
Martha Hirst*

Martha Hirst - February 28, 2021 at 09:50 AM

HG

“ Dear Irene,

I read of Andrei's passing in the Globe today. Our condolences on your loss. I have fond and fun memories of the year or two we shared office space at Film Images at 388 King West. It must have been in the early to mid-90s. I still laugh out loud when I recall some of the things he said during those days---and coincidentally, Lynne and I were talking (and smiling) about him just a few weeks ago. Of course, reading through his obituary, I had no idea of his rich life history.

Once again, our deepest sympathies. Take care of yourself.

Howard Green & Lynne Heller

Howard Green - February 27, 2021 at 08:33 PM