

LUCILLE BALL CONCEALS FIRST BORN CHILD TO ADVANCE HER CAREER

A preponderance of evidence and information leads us to believe that the Queen of Comedy Lucille Ball concealed her first born to advance her career.

Stamford, CT July 16, 2009 - Lucille Ball had no business like show business getting pregnant in 1946. We believe through a preponderance of evidence and information that the following occurred:

In 1946 and 1947 respectfully, Lucille Ball's career from movies to radio were spiraling downward and going nowhere fast. Revealing a pregnancy would have been a devastating blow to her career. During that era, it was common practice for the studios to dictate over a woman's career, contracts, and their livelihood. We believe Lucille Ball was no different. With Lucille Ball's release from her obligations with motion picture studios, she was, for the first time in her life, under no obligation to any agency. A pregnancy during this time would have brought her career to a screeching halt, she had to make a choice: pursue her love for her profession or motherhood. Her choice was her profession, and that decision led to concealing a pregnancy with her first-born daughter which she named Madeline Jane Dee who was born in 1947 in Long Beach, California. Shortly after giving birth, she embarked on a six-month tour with a vaudeville act, Dream Girls (June 30, 1947) in Princeton, New Jersey, in which she had the lead starring role.

With the baby secure in the hands of a suitable nurse/caretaker, Lucille Ball was free to continue pursuing her career. Desi Arnaz was booked continuously throughout the United States, keeping him away from Lucille for long stretches of time. To quote Mr. Arnaz from his autobiography, "A Book", (page 222), "We'd either make love like mad or fight like hell revealing the couple's strained relationship during the late 40's (page 222), Mr. Arnaz stated "After the Palace Hotel in San Francisco, Lucy and I had two of the worst years we had ever had."

Years later in March of 1951, the I Love Lucy pilot was filmed. During the viewing of the only original surviving copy of the I Love Lucy pilot, it became visibly noticeable that Ms. Ball was indeed six months pregnant just as reported in many publications including "A Book" by Mr. Arnaz. Thus, making this the second pregnancy successfully hidden from studio executives.

Coincidentally within days of the filming of the I Love Lucy pilot, there was a "mad rush" to change the baby's entire name to further conceal her identity to not link both mother and daughter together. Proceedings began for the name change of the child, which led to abandonment petitions (birth mother was not present at any of the proceedings nor did she sign her rights away). This eventually resulted into a forced adoption by the nurse/caretaker

who was caring for the young child. The nurse and Lucille Ball had full understanding that these proceedings needed to occur in order to have the name changed legally.

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Tragically, Madeline Jane Dee died in August 2003, leaving her only living child and heir, Cassandra Lucianna Carlson to continue her search for her mother's identity and lineage. All indicators have pointed to Lucille Ball as the birth mother. The legendary couple's two surviving children Mrs. Lucie Arnaz Luckinbill and Mr. Desi, Arnaz Jr., have been repeatedly contacted and have refused DNA testing to lay Mrs. Carlson's claims to rest.

Mrs. Carlson's search went public in September of 2008 when she gave an introductory exclusive to a national publication.

Mrs. Carlson and her family have retained a Greenwich, CT lawyer and a Stamford, CT private investigator. Most recently a well renowned geneticist who has offered to aid Mrs. Carlson on her quest has contacted them.

Cassandra Lucianna Carlson is moving forward on behalf of her mother as well as her three children who bare a striking resemblance to both the Ball and Arnaz families. Mrs. Carlson is well aware that in bringing forth her story it will open doors for others who are seeking their biological lineage including the descendants of legendary or iconic figures.

Mrs. Carlson has vivid memories of a home in Mexico which was on the beach as well as visits from a brash and bold, orange-haired woman who she remembers meeting a few times and going out for spaghetti dinner on one of her birthday's.

It was only through historic documents and periodicals that lead the Carlson's search to a breakthrough with publications including a police report of a stolen engraved nursery pin in the form of a key by Desi Arnaz, Sr., and also a report of Lucille Ball fainting and having a "mysterious illness" for months on end. To quote Ms. Ball in her own autobiography written (7) seven years after her death, (page 178) "for the first time in eleven years, I was not under contract to a studio and was free to take an extended vacation. I took six months off! For Ms. Ball this was unusual character and brings forth further validation of a hidden pregnancy during this time period.

We are bringing forth this information to ask publicly that both the surviving children of Lucille Ball and Desi Arnaz, Sr. submit to DNA testing to put Mrs. Carlson's quest to rest.

For additional reference please review the following media releases:

NY Post Article Dated: September 2, 2008

http://www.nypost.com/seven/09022008/news/nationalnews/i_love_lucy__desi___because_t hey_were_my_127102.htm

Stamford Advocate Article Dated: July 12, 2009

http://www.stamfordadvocate.com/ci_12822028?IADID=Search-www.stamfordadvocate.com-www.stamfordadvocate.com

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Fairfield County Weekly Article Dated: July 16, 2009

<http://www.fairfieldweekly.com/article.cfm?aid=13804>

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