By Samuel Clemens and C. Robert Rotter

Pageantry

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## The Models

Linné Ahlstrand **Randy Allen Charlotte Alpert Carol Anders Bette Arlen** Sylvia Baraff Jean Bartel **Virginia Bates** Mary Ellen Batten Lysa Baugher **Eleanor Bender Eve Bernhardt Irene Bolton Jolene Brand Barbara Brent Wesley Brent Kay Brown Marilyn Burtis Carol Byron Gwen Caldwell** Laverne Capodice Laurie Carroll Sue Casey Katherine Cassidy Pat Channing Helen Chapman Lorinne Crawford Lorraine Crawford

Joan Culver Linda Danson **Roxann Delman** Millicent Deming Sandra Jo Drummond Pat Emery Jeanne Ferguson **Phyllis Forbes Chris Fortune Doris Gildart Margie Graner** Pat Hall Lori Hilton Jan Hollar Judith Jacobson Pamela Grayson Ellie Kent Shirley Kilpatrick **Frances King** Honey King Joy Langstaff Patti Lawler **Elizabeth Lee Meredith Leeds Elizabeth Logue** June Lundi **Renee Marshall** Lola Mason Sally McCloskey **Honey Merrill Dede Moore Gloria Moore** 

Mary Morlas Taffy O'Neil Sheila Noonan **Betty Onge Jacquelyn Park Allyn Parsons Donna Percy** Kathy Raymond **Maxine Reeves Grayce Reilly** Mary Rodman Lois Schaumburg **Betty Scott** Hazel Shaw Zanne Shaw Pat Sheehan **Dori Simmons Marylin Simms** Pat Sinclair **Elizabeth Smith Dee Gee Sparks** Maureen Stephenson **Annabelle** Thiele **Beverly Thomas** Patti Throop Paula Vernay Wendy Waldron Lynn Wallad Judy Walsh Scott Weldon Nancy Westbrook Sandra Wirth Carol Wynn

"Dedicated to the actresses and models who immortalized pageantry"

## Introduction

Pageantry is a commemoration of the various –and often obscure– actresses and models of the 1940's, 1950's, and 1960's. They competed in pageants, posed for photographers, and appeared in magazines and movies. In addition to profiling the various models, there's a lot of interesting facts about the outlandish and less mainstream pageants of that era. "Miss California", "Miss Cheese", "The Strawberry Queen", and "Miss Letter Carrier" were some of the pageants used to promote products, functions, and causes. The winners were academics, fashionistas, dancers, farmers, housewives, and athletes. They were blondes, brunettes and redheads.

I've wanted to write something about this forgotten industry for months. These women were very popular in their heyday, but faded into obscurity shortly afterwards. They deserve to be remembered in some capacity. Some of them (Millicent Deming, Mary Morlas, and Helen Funai) were more than willing to be interviewed about their modeling days, while others were reclusive and didn't wanna think about it. The children were ecstatic about this as well, with some of them not even knowing that that their mothers did modeling. I hope that everyone featured in Pageantry feels honored and appreciated.

#### 50s

# Linné Ahlstrand



Linné Nanette Ahlstrand (1930–1967) was born to immigrants from Sweden. After years of working at a postcard factory in Chicago, Illinois, the 5'2" blonde set her sights on Hollywood. She was Playmate of the Month in July 1958 and had speaking roles in Beast From Haunted Cave (1959) and Living Venus (1961). Her untimely death at the age of 36 made her the first Playmate of the Month to pass away.

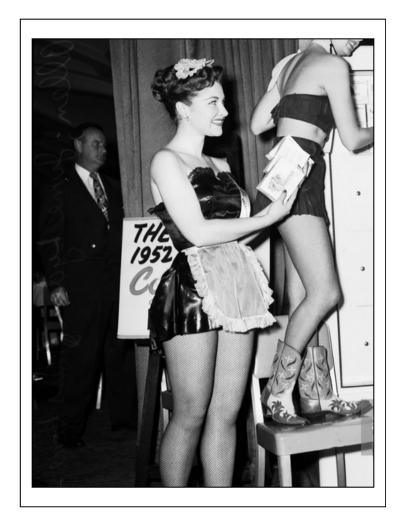
"She was diagnosed with breast cancer months after we got married. It was devastating." – Barry Snowbarger

### 50s

# Randy Allen



Born in San Francisco, California, Patricia "Randa" Lee Allen (1930–1988) was one of the few natural redheads in the modeling industry. She –born to Austin and Grace Allen in San Francisco, California– moved to Hollywood in 1950 and sought to be a star while studying at the University of Southern California 1952 was a successful year for her, as she was crowned Miss Home Freezer and Queen of the National Rabbit Week.



The latter pageant caught the attention of Howard Hughes, who offered her a role in Son of Sinbad (1955) as "Wench" where she was one of the few actresses to have dialogue. She also had roles in the stage productions of Look, Ma, I'm Dancin'!, A Penny For Charon, and Little Claus at the Ring Theater. Her career took a nosedive after she was arrested on gambling charges while at a café. She was found not guilty, but her career never recovered. Her last public appearance was at the California Corset, Bra, and Lingerie Show in February 1958 where she modeled apparel. She married Lee Carroll on December 13, 1953 and they divorced in 1957. She married Raymond J. Kerr in February 1960, and they remained married until her death in October 1988.

### 50s

# Charlotte

Alpert



#### Born as Charlotte Lander (1927–1996) in Los Angeles, California, Charlotte was a popular model because of her long legs, towering height of 6', and slim figure. She was also phenomenally talented. Her passion for the theater led to her helping found –with her husband David Alpert– The Players' Ring, a production company that remained active in doing stage productions. Charlotte starred in several of their plays including I Love Lydia and Once in a Lifetime, both of which won critical acclaim.

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