

Robin Armitage

PartyLite Gifts

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Once called, “the Marilyn Monroe” of Red Deer, Robin is a complex woman driven by a need to improve the lives of the people in her sphere and the world in general. Told that she couldn’t change the world, her reply was: “No, but I can make my corner a little better!” Although she gets paid to party and can be a character, she takes making a difference for others very seriously.

Her family (spouse, Murray Gommerud, two sons, four stepchildren and fourteen grandchildren) and friends are her priorities but her other persona as Mrs. Claus, her volunteer work and her nearly 18 year PartyLite career are near and dear to her heart!

She truly believes that “Well behaved women rarely make history” and has worked at many male dominated jobs before women did them. Just over forty years ago she was an assist manager at Ivanhoe, a men’s wear store at Parkland Mall till the day before her gestational due date. When the baby was just over a year old she became welder’s helper on a pipeline job. When left a widow at 26, she worked and went to school, working as a fashion co-ordinator at Eatons. She left Eaton’s to work for Canada life, later becoming one of the first female board members for minor hockey and president of Life Underwriters.

She is most proud to have earned many awards, among them being on the dean’s list at College as an adult student, Woman of the Year in 1987 and recently Woman of Excellence.

Although she has no dance experience, she was excited to support Aspire because she has been touched by the lives of Xaden (now running in heaven), Megan, Sarah and many others. What she lacked in knowledge she more than made up for in spunk and determination at the Celebrity Dance Off last year, and was invited to join their board following the event. She humbly accepted.