

Theresa A. Mike Scholarship Foundation

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Theresa A. Mike Scholarship Foundation

Spotlight 29 Casino

Saturday, April 25, 2009

Story by Lisa Robyn Lawrence

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Out of Tragedy Comes a Great Good

On September 17, 1997 Theresa A. Mike died at the tender age of 23, leaving behind an infant daughter. Postpartum complications of an enlarged heart was the cause of her death just three months after giving birth. Theresa A. Mike attended Northwest Indian College and deeply believed in the benefits of education. She was dedicated to enhancing the traditions, culture and future of her tribe, the Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians, as well as Native Americans everywhere.

Her father, Dean Mike, past chairman of the Twenty Nine Band of Mission Indians and acting General Manager of spotlight 29 Casino and her mother Theresa Mike, Director of Spotlight 29 Casino are committed to keeping their beloved daughter's memory alive by offering assistance to college bound students in the United States as well. Angelina Mike, another family member, works diligently to honor Theresa A. Mike's memory as well.

Theresa A. Mike's death became the catalyst for her family and her tribe to come together to honor her life by founding a scholarship fund for any registered Native American who is a member of one of the federally recognized Native American Indian Tribes within the 50 states OR any student who is a resident of any of the Western United States, California, Arizona, Washington, Nevada, Utah, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico or Alaska and will be attending any College or University of their choice.

For twelve years the foundation has held fund raisers and in recent years has raised upward of \$50,000 per year for the scholarship endowment. This scholarship provides from \$500 up to \$2000 in scholarship funds to students who are selected through an application and review process. The applications must be submitted by July 30 each year to be considered.

The Theresa A. Mike Scholarship Fund is a local foundation that reaches far beyond the Coachella Valley, to provide a benefit that positively affects lives on a global level.

This year's, very successful, gala fund raiser was held April 25, 2009 at Spotlight 29 Casino and was entitled "Under the Sea."

For more information about the Theresa A. Mike Scholarship Foundation or a scholarship application, [click here](#)