

CONTACTING THE WORLDS OF EDGAR RICE BURROUGHS

## Lisa Weissmuller, Daughter Of Johnny, Dies In Los Angeles At 66

by David Fury

Lisa Weissmuller-Gallagher, the adopted daughter of Tarzan actor Johnny Weissmuller, died in Los Angeles on May 14, 2007. After breaking a hip in December, her health declined while convalescing in a Los Angeles nursing home. She is survived by her husband Ed Gallagher, son Richard Salb of Los Angeles, daughter Lisa Maria Salb of New York, and step-sister Wendy Weissmuller of California. She was preceded in death by her mother Maria, who died in 2004, and step-brother John Weissmuller, Jr., who died in 2006.

Born in 1940 in Germany, her father, a pilot in the German military, was killed in action before Lisa was one-year-old. At the conclusion of World War II, Lisa came to the United States with her mother Maria Bauman, who re-married. After graduating from high school, Lisa did some acting in motion pictures, modeling, and also was a Las Vegas show-girl. In 1961, Lisa married Richard Salb, a prominent criminal judge, who became the father of her two children.

Lisa's mother Maria Bauman met Johnny Weissmuller around 1960, after both had several unsuccessful marriages. They soon realized they were soulmates, and married in 1963. Johnny also had a daughter Heidi, who was about the same age as Lisa. Heidi was killed in an auto accident in 1962, and Lisa gradually became the daughter that Johnny had lost.

Johnny loved Lisa like his own, and made it official in 1971. He legally adopted her and gave her his name, and Johnny became the father Lisa had never known. In a 1973 entry in his journal, Johnny noted how much he loved Lisa and appreciated the visits of Lisa and her children.



Lisa with her mother Maria and father Johnny in 1960s.

After her divorce from Salb, Lisa married Ed Gallagher in 1970. They lived in Las Vegas during the early years of their marriage, and for the past 20 years the couple resided in Beverly Hills. Ed was employed at the Beverly Hills *Courier* for many years until his recent retirement.

Lisa was a huge supporter of swimming in the United States, and in 2005 she was asked to present the medals at the National Championships that were held in Irvine, California. One of her proudest moments was meeting Michael Phelps, and presenting him with his gold medals. Phelps is the greatest swimmer of this era, just as Johnny Weissmuller was the world's greatest swimmer of the 1920s.

Lisa loved to watch old movies, including the Tarzan pictures that starred Johnny and Maureen O'Sullivan. Before her death, Lisa Weissmuller was planning to publish a photo-biography of her father, who was the hero of 12 Tarzan pictures based on the novels of Edgar Rice Burroughs. After breaking her hip, she discovered she had talent as a water-color artist during her period of convalescence.

There was a private funeral service for Lisa Weissmuller-Gallagher in Los Angeles, and, after cremation, she will be buried in the grave shared by Johnny Weissmuller and his wife Maria in the Valley of the Light cemetery, Acapulco, Mexico.

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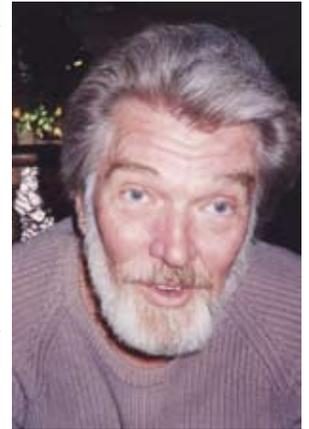
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# Dum-Dum 2007 Highlights

**Denny Miller's** face is well known to Burroughs fans, and to the rest of the world, which is why he called his autobiography *Didn't You Used to Be What's His Name?* In addition to playing Tarzan the Ape Man in 1959, he has made over 100 films and 37 TV commercials. Besides that, he is one of the greatest human beings ever to tread the planet, so we are pleased and privileged to welcome him back for Dum-Dum 2007. He and our other special guests will be featured on our "Meet the Artists" panel, followed by audience participation in a questions and answers session.



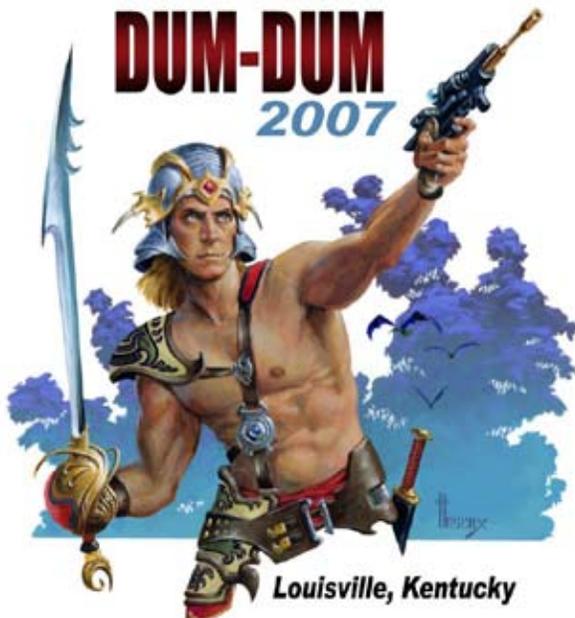
**Richard Hescox** is known to Burroughs fans for his beautiful paintings for the Venus stories, pictured on the covers of the Ballantine/Del Rey paperbacks of 1991. He was born in Pasadena, California, and soon rose to prominence in the art world with over 130 cover paintings for major publishing houses, and Hollywood advertising and design artist for such films as *E.T.*, *The Never-Ending Story*, and *The Time Bandits*. In his spare time he has turned to fine art painting, and has been exhibited at many American art galleries and The Society of Illustrators in New York City. He recently moved to Reno, Nevada with his wife and son, and we are happy to introduce him to Burroughs fans at the 2007 Dum-Dum in Louisville.



**Eve Brent** hails from Fort Worth, Texas, where she was a child actress, and got acting in her blood. She went to California and bounced off the Pasadena Playhouse into leading roles in films, including "Jane" in *Tarzan's Fight for Life* (1958) opposite Gordon Scott's Tarzan. She is still acting in films, her latest being Brad Pitt's grandmother in his forthcoming film, *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button*.



We have lost two of our finest Tarzan actors this year: Herman Brix / Bruce Bennett (at age 100) and Gordon Scott (at age 80), so these two actors will be remembered at a special panel discussion moderated by Mike Chapman who wrote the Brix biography, with a special word from Eve Brent who knew and admired Gordon Scott for many years.



Another panel discussion will feature the saga of the Burroughs Bibliophiles, past, present and future, followed by a meeting of the Board of Directors to which the audience is invited to listen in. For the fun part, two of our Dum-Dum "Janes," Dorothy Howell and Joan Bledig, will entertain us with a slide show and a Burroughs Jeopardy! game. Bob Hyde's three children, John, Susan and Wendy, will be on hand for the dedication of their father's ERB collection to the University of Louisville Library, and some of the outstanding items in this collection will be on exhibit.

We hope you will join us on this first weekend in August to celebrate these events and the memory of Edgar Rice Burroughs who brought us all together.

... "Ye Editor"