

# Claudia Asbury



**1952 - 2010**

**Claudia was born in Houston, Texas and started her lifelong love affair with musical theatre and dance as a toddler in her parents' dance studio. At the age of 20 she moved to New York City to pursue a career as a dancer. She appeared in numerous Broadway musicals including "Sophisticated Ladies," "Evita," "Mack & Mable," and "The Act." During the course of her career she also worked in television and the movies. She was the choreographer of Francis Ford Coppola's film, "The Cotton Club," and the co-choreographer for the opening ceremonies of the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics and the 1986 Academy Awards Ceremony. As director and choreographer of the first joint United States/ Soviet Union musical theatre production, she took "Sophisticated Ladies" to Moscow. In 2001 she met her life partner, Joyce Ducas, and the couple moved to Orlando, Florida where she volunteered her talents as choreographer for the Orlando Gay Chorus and the annual Gay Pride Festival. She was politically passionate and active in her pursuit of LGBT civil rights and lived her life as a model of such. Claudia adored her family and friends and is survived by her beloved partner, Joyce Ducas.**