

## Happy Birthday Monique

Written by T. Rob Brown (aka Roberto Chocolate)

Saturday, 30 October 2010 15:16 - Last Updated Saturday, 30 October 2010 21:36

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Special wishes to a true Canadian pioneer in Panama.



It is because of Monique Woods that Roberto and I find ourselves living in Panama. We both fell in love with her energy, her bar and the expats dream.

Through her eyes, Panama truly is the modern day 'Wild Wild West' – where anything is possible.

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The movie line “If you build it they will come” was never truer than with Monique.

“Yes, you can retire in Panama on your Canadian pension. Woody and I retired from the Canadian Air Force and moved to Panama in 2002”, enthuses Monique.

Not content to simply sway in a hammock, Monique uses her boundless energy to juggle family, the bar, her real estate company and still finds time to tour her new found Canadian friends and clients around.

On any given day you can find her at Woody’s Beach Bar and Grill in Farallon, serving up a cold Canadian beer or a glass of wine and sharing a chapter of her many adventures in Panama, or sharing her knowledge of homes and living in Panama through her Woody’s Canadian Realty, Eh!.

Monique is always ready to help out a new person; to make an introduction, drive them around or make a call to help smooth the ways.

She may be turning another year older, but it hasn't slowed her down one bit. I can't wait to see what she's accomplished by the time her 50th birthday rolls around.

If everyone that came to Panama were to do a fraction of what Monique has done; taking the time to learn the language, to embrace the locals and add to the culture - what a rich country this would be.

As just one of those people whose lives you've impacted, and have taken the time to party with (you can always count on Monique for a party) I would like to wish you a **Happy Birthday Best**  
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May the universal energy that you share come back to you ten-fold in the coming year.

Cheers! Yolanda