

Deb Freng Obituary

Born September 12, 1951 Melrose, Massachusetts

Died July 30, 2022, Issaquah, Washington

My loving parents modeled patience and planning for the future. They taught me the value of delayed gratification. With careful planning and informed decision making I was able to realize my dreams. Then I ran out of time. I will never hold my husband again. My beloved son and daughter in law are now forever beyond my reach. I will not see my grandson off to kindergarten. I will never get to paint and draw all the images I carry in my heart.

I regret spending so much time at work and not enough time with my young family. Meaning and purpose are found in the smallest shared moments and I missed many of them. I cannot savor a memory of things I did not experience. There is no refund for lost time.

My lifelong learning habit made me challenge myself. Due diligence enabled calculated risks that lead to personal growth. I made mistakes and derived value from experimentation. I decided that "comfort zone" was an excuse and there are no failures, only learning opportunities.

I'm sad to leave my best friend and beloved second (and final) husband of 21 years, Joseph C Decuir. He taught me true acceptance is possible when minds are open. I became more patient and more appreciative of differences. I am a better version of myself for having loved him. Maybe if I had known what I know now, I could have saved my first marriage.

Leaving my son, Kristopher James Freng, is a pain without words. I'm grateful he's an adult with sound judgement, compassion for others, has a great career and a loving wife in Katrina Freng. Her patience and insight make her a nurturing mother to our beloved grandson Holden James Freng. I'm grateful to have lived long enough to have created memories with this tiny, very affectionate child.

I also love and will terribly miss that sweet young girl, Gail Anne Round, with whom I grew up. She is bright, talented, determined, a great seamstress and artist and the most naturally beautiful girl I ever met.

I do not believe in heaven, yet I know my brother, David Bruce Round, and my parents Ruth Bruce and David Holden Round would be there in spirit.

My sister-in-law Bette Hughes Round and niece, Sarah Elizabeth Round have brought me joy. Michael, Camille and Scottish Granddaughter Adelaide Decuir brought sunshine to my life. It's so unfair that I could not have more time with you all.

The many colorful, quirky, well-read descendants of my Massachusetts grandparents: John Jay Round, Bertha Annette Holden Round, Walter Webster Bruce, Ruth Palm Honywill Bruce and Muriel Spurr Barrett Bruce, who span Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New Jersey, Vermont, Maine and New Hampshire have long been treasured. They provided dry, acerbic New England commentary for my entire life.

Leaving my chosen family of beloved lifelong friends feels like desertion. It was a privilege to love you all: The entire Freng and Decuir Families for your kindness and warmth; Kyle Salsburg Anderson, my 4th grade protector at Clyde Hill Elementary; Laurie Allen who sat in front of me in Miss Kimberling's BHS '69 biology class; Karen Krebs-WWSC '73 and her hilarious brother Robert Krebs whom I met in the Ridgeway Alpha parking lot; Jeffrey Morrow Cox, the tall, dark curly haired guy with the hot glasses at WWSC upper campus cafeteria; Mary Haga Walker, the pretty blonde sitting next to me in WWSC art class; Jane Hedberg, that 70's friend so composed and indomitable whom I met while working at Heath Printers. Lastly and with much love and laughter, Bob & Cathy Cadd, our beloved 42nd Street neighbors who've played world class "Settlers of Catan" while tolerating my obnoxious "wood for sheep?" commentary over the last 20 years.

Friendship, love and great food give meaning to life. So, let's have a lazy Saturday "Goodbye Deb Freng Lunch" at Sunset Hills, Bellevue. Please eat too much at the **midday** delicious buffet catered by **McCormick and Schmick's**, Deb's favorite restaurant. Come to share memories of legendary misadventures and recollections of Deb's effect on your life! Wear your favorite comfy clothes! And, of course, there will be some world class bagpiping! All friends invited. Please RSVP to katrinafreng@gmail.com so we know how much food to order! Thank you all for being part of my wonderful, well-lived life. Love, Deb