



Frances B. O'Keefe

AUG 27, 1938 - NOV 21, 2020



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Table of Contents

Obituary	Page 3
Tribute Wall	Page 5
Media	Page 12



Frances B. O'Keefe

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FLORIST NOTE: PLEASE DELIVER ALL FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS BY 3PM FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2020 TO OUR LEWES LOCATION.

All are invited to participate via live-streaming of the services by visiting the following link on Saturday, November 28, 2020 at 3:00 PM: <https://webcasts.lifetributes.com/1103605>

Frances “Fran” (Bender) O’Keefe, age 82 of Dagsboro, DE and formerly of Preston, MD, passed away peacefully at home surrounded by her loving family on November 21, 2020. She was born on August 27, 1938 in Philadelphia, PA, daughter of the late George and Matilda Bender.

Fran grew up in Bristol, PA and went to Bensalem High School, where she played on the varsity softball, basketball, and field hockey teams.

Fran was married to Robert James Lake for 34 years. They began their lives together in PA until her career with the IRS moved them to MD. Fran enjoyed working so much, that she worked until she was 78. She created a lot of cherished friendships with her co-workers.

In 1995, Fran married David O’Keefe. She enjoyed spending time with the family, going to the beach, and traveling. In the winters she spent her time “RV-ing” in South Padre Island, TX and Leesburg, FL with her siblings, George and Virginia. Fran was an active member of St. George’s Methodist church and enjoyed bible study.

Fran found pleasure in watching her grandchildren and great grandchildren play sports and perform at school events and was very proud of them. She was the matriarch and instilled the importance of family. Fran valued and loved her family immensely and the love was returned tenfold. Besides her family, she had many close friends, all of whom she loved dearly.



Obituary

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In addition to her parents, Fran was preceded in death by her husbands: Robert James Lake and David O'Keefe; her son Robert James Lake, Jr; her sisters, Virginia Bell and Sally Zeisloft; and her brother, Robert Bender She is survived by her children: Kathleen Campbell, Linda Gibbs, and Lisa Rogers (Mike); her step-children: Robert O'Keefe (Anna), Julia Davis (George "Buck"), and John O'Keefe (Ginger "Gigi"); her grandchildren: Nicole Owens, Christen Nichols, Ryan Montgomery, Courtney Lake, Michael Gibbs, Shannon and Jessica Rogers, and Zachary Gibbs; her step-grandchildren: John and Cortney O'Keefe; her great-grandchildren: Nathan Owens, Trace Montgomery, Nya and Jaden Nichols, Caden Buchanan, and Emma Montgomery; her brother, George Bender (Virginia); her brother-in-law, Donald Bell II (Barbara); her sisters-in-law: Bertha Entwisle and Edith Puccio; her many nieces, nephews, cousins; and her countless friends.

Due to Covid-19 restrictions, there will be no public service. All are invited to join online for a live streamed funeral service on Saturday, November 28, 2020 at 3:00 PM. The stream can be accessed by visiting the following link <https://webcasts.lifetributes.com/1103605>.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests contributions in Fran's memory to Feed the Children, 333 North Meridian, Oklahoma City, OK 73107, or www.feedthechildren.org.

Please sign the online guestbook located on the tribute page.



Tribute Wall

Frances B. O'Keefe

AUG 27, 1938 - NOV 21, 2020



Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium shared a **Webcast Video**.



December 2 at 6:12 AM



Randall Lucas posted:

I met this beautiful person in the 1990's at IRS when she was known to me as Fran Lake. I was so impressed with the knowledge she commanded of her projects in meetings and the End of Year conferences and more. She inspired us newbies at IRS to do the same with the hard work and dedication she displayed. Later Fran Lake became known to me as Linda's Mom. Linda a dear friend would tell me in conversations over the years of the stories of times at the beach in Delaware that Fran so dearly loved with her family. Some things that happen at the beach are never told, I guess, for reasons of love. I never knew Trace was left briefly in the water. This memory of being with her great grandson and her daughter and countless others family gatherings at the beach are what binds this family together and cement the legacy of Frances O'Keefe. To the family this beautiful legacy of family and love and caring is what binds you and sharing these memories and new ones you create in years to come will honor Frances O'Keefe for eternity and give you strength...."because The Heavenly Father now carries Frances O'Keefe in his arms, we can sleep in peace.Sincerely, Randall Lucas

December 8 at 12:41 PM



Pamela Harris lit a candle in honor of Frances.



December 4 at 10:16 PM



Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium shared an album called **Memories Album**.



December 2 at 6:14 AM



Tribute Wall

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EF

Elaine (Cobleigh) Fitzgerald posted:

Prayers and condolences to the family from classmate Elaine (Cobleigh) Fitzgerald and Dick Fitzgerald.

November 30 at 3:55 PM

BJ

Barbara (Congdon) Johnson posted:

Prayers and condolences to the family from classmate Barbara (Congdon) Johnson and Chick Johnson

November 30 at 3:46 PM

RG

Randy Grottke shared an album called **Memories Album**.



November 30 at 8:18 AM

DS

Donna Swan posted:

I was blessed to have Fran as a dear friend for over 40 years. We worked together and played together. Every spring we tried to take a trip somewhere tropical. I have many wonderful memories of lazy days on the beach and Fran finally teaching me to swim. So many good times. One year her sister Sally came with us to Jamaica, it was very special. Fran was such a generous, caring person....one of a kind. She gave so much love to her family and friends. It was a privilege to know and love her. Donna Swan

November 28 at 12:23 PM

JO

John Okeefe posted:

Hi everyone, just wanted to express Gigi and my condolences. Fran was a amazing woman and we will forever have many precious memories of her. It was very heartwarming to hear you all speak so beautiful things of her. Ours hearts go out to you all. Love, John and Gigi

November 28 at 12:08 PM



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BB

Bill Blessing posted:

Kathy, Lisa and Linda, so sorry to hear about your Mom, she and I had a very special relationship. She will be missed by all. She was a very special individual who you meet only once in your life time. Love to you al, Bill Blessing

November 28 at 8:42 AM

JM

Joe Manning posted:

I tried to put 40 years into a paragraph, but I can't. So, just like Fran, this is short and sweet. Smart; great co-worker; fantastic friend; great laugh; wonderful smile. She found Judy for me. I am forever grateful.

November 28 at 8:30 AM

KB

Kathleen Black posted:

When I was 12 Frans' daughter Kathy and I were best of friends (still are). Every summer I would spend a couple of weeks with Kathy and her extended family at the beach. Fran treated me like family, fed me, drove us around, took us to the ocean. I can remember her going out to buy me allergy medicine. Fran enriched my life. My favorite memory was New Years 1980 at the Elks lodge. She was disappointed that Marylanders did not know how to do the mummers strut like they do in Philadelphia, she proceeded to show us all how it was done! I was fortunate to know Fran most of my life. She will be dearly missed.

November 27 at 5:17 PM

DV

Donna Vernon posted:

Fran was my mentor and friend when I started working for Northrop Grumman in 1998. I had lots of fun with her, but didn't want to be on the wrong side of her either. LOL She loved her family and was always talking about them. Fran will surely be missed.

November 27 at 11:52 AM

RG

Randy And Linda Grottke sent a Beautiful in Blue to the O'Keefe family.



November 27 at 10:40 AM



Tribute Wall

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Randy Grottke shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.



Fran was a wonderful lady and will be missed. I have known Fran since 1974 and she was my team leader and mentor when I moved to Washington DC. We had some great times, both at work and outside of work. She was a caring and happy person and I can still hear her wonderful laugh. I was lucky to see her at her 80th birthday party and spend some time with her. I will miss her FB messages that always contained joy and happiness. Rest in peace, Fran. I will miss you. Will toast you with a Yukon Jack. Love, Randy Grottke

November 27 at 10:37 AM



Elizabeth Murchie posted:

I have known Fran since 1977. She was a loving and caring person to all she met. She was my coach, mentor and close friend both in and out of work. She was also like a 2nd mother to me. She introduced me to my husband of 38 years, Jerry, whom she knew through work and the bowling league that she convinced me to join. I will miss our lunches here and in Fla, especially at Perkins when we had to decide which pie to get. What I will miss most is our weekly phone conversations catching up on family and things. You will be in my prayers always, Love Liz Murchie

November 27 at 6:07 AM



Alcala posted:

Fran and I (Gabriel Alcalá) shared responsibility for managing the testing of IRS software from 1998 till 2005. With a team we jointly hired, we saved the IRS and the world from the Y2K threat. We made it possible for all honest Americans to pay their taxes. Yes, we shared common political positions. Fran was a beautiful person. She loved her family so much. She may have had disappointments; but, she never stopped loving. I remember, each morning, I would wait for her to get to work and together we would walk to the cafeteria, get our coffee and a roll, and enjoy some wonderful conversations. These were special moments. I met all her family, especially Dave, through her descriptive stories - there were so many. We started each day with a laugh. She will be in my prayers, Gabe

November 26 at 10:04 AM



Hannelore And Randy Phillips posted:

What a terrible loss for everyone. If only the Service had more as dedicated as she. Our condolences to the family, especially Lisa and Linda - we have wonderful memories having worked with all of you. Hannelore and Randy Phillips

November 26 at 8:36 AM



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MM

Mimi And Kevin Mendenhall sent a Full Of Love Bouquet to the O'Keefe family.



November 26 at 6:58 AM

PL

Peggy Lavery posted:

I have known Fran since 1976 and have loved her and her family for all these years. I am going to miss her very much. Unfortunately I can't make the viewing but I will be there in spirit. Love to all aunt Peg.

November 25 at 2:43 PM

DG

Debbie Grimes posted:

Larry and I are so sorry to hear about Fran's passing. The few years I worked closely with Fran are among the most memorable of my career. Fran was fun, generous, kind, intelligent, dedicated, loyal, and even occasionally outrageous. The world has lost a good woman. We send our condolences to her family.

November 25 at 2:15 PM

AD

Amanda Derosier posted:

Fran was a one of a kind. She will be missed so very dearly! We send our heartfelt prayers during this very difficult time. We are always just a call away. ❤️❤️❤️❤️ Rest In Peace Mrs Fran!

November 25 at 1:25 PM



Anonymous sent an Arrive in Style to the O'Keefe family.



November 25 at 12:42 PM



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DH

Don J Hasselman posted:

Lisa and family, I'm very sorry for your loss. I knew your mom years ago for quite a while and enjoyed working with her. I know how hard it is to lose a parent no matter when or how that loss comes. Don Hasselman

November 25 at 12:38 PM

BH

Brian Hattery posted:

Very sorry for your loss, Lisa, Linda and family. I did not know your mom well but I thought she was a very pleasant lady and a very knowledgeable and competent professional.

November 25 at 11:35 AM

HD

Helen Daniels posted:

Dear Lisa, Linda, Liz and family, I had the pleasure to know and work with Fran over the years in various different jobs. She was a wonderful friend as well as co-worker. She always had a kind word and a smile, was quick to laugh, and never seemed to get ruffled despite all the sometimes stressful and crazy times! She will be greatly missed by many. She loved her family fiercely cherished all her times and memories of being a mom and grandmother to her brood!! Sending hugs and prayers to you all. Helen Daniels

November 25 at 11:17 AM



Anonymous sent a Beautiful in Blue to the O'Keefe family.



November 25 at 9:48 AM

EY

Eddie Yee posted:

Lisa & Linda and family, We are so very sorry to hear of your loss. It was a real pleasure for me to not only know your Mom, but to have had the opportunity to work with her during my 30 years w/ IRS. She will be missed by many. Love and respectfully, Eddie and Carol Yee

November 25 at 8:56 AM



Tribute Wall

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Anonymous sent an Emerald Garden Basket to the O'Keefe family.



November 25 at 3:39 AM



Media

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Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium shared a **Webcast Video**.

December 2 at 6:12 AM



Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium shared a video to the **Memories Album** album.

December 2 at 6:14 AM





Randy Grottke shared 3 photos to the **Memories Album** album.

November 30 at 8:18 AM



Elaine (Cobleigh) Fitzgerald November 30 at 3:51 PM

Prayers and condolences to the family from Elaine (Cobleigh) Fitzgerald and Dick Fitzgerald.





Media

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Randy Grottke shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

November 27 at 10:37 AM



80th birthday party at National Harbor. 2018



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Frances by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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