



Francis Hueber

February 27, 1929 - June 5, 2019

Francis M. Hueber of Rehoboth Beach, DE, passed away on June 5, 2019 in his home surrounded by his "family of friends" at the age of 90.

"Ole Fran" as he liked to call himself, was born in Oklahoma in 1929, son of the late Maurice and Ema Lina Hueber. The family moved to Indiana where he thrived in school and investigated local streams and forests pursuing his interest in natural history. He acquired a graduate degree in botany and became a paleobotanist for 40 years in the Department of Paleobiology at the National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian.

After retiring from the museum he split his time between Rehoboth and St. Thomas, VI, with his partner, Ross Alexander, who passed away in 2002.

Fran traveled all over the world for work and pleasure, with China being a favorite. He collected many items on his travels. One of his main interests was collecting minerals. He acquired an extensive collection, one previously on display in the University of Delaware Mineralogical Museum.

Fran was active in the Rehoboth Art League and with his museum knowledge, assisted in the formation of the museum. With Fran's warm smile and open heart, he made special friendships wherever he went. His vast knowledge on all subjects allowed him to communicate with everyone and he was eager to share his knowledge with all.

One of his favorite quotes was from Jack Daniels, "May you always have love to share, health to spare, and friends who care." Our community will miss "Ole Fran".

Services will be private.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in Fran's name to Delaware Hospice, 100 Patriots Way, Milford, DE 19963.

Please sign Fran's online guestbook located on this site.

Comments



“ We were lucky to have Fran as a neighbor on School Lane for many years. He had a wealth of interesting information and extensive international travel stories to share. We'll miss seeing him tend his many trees and plants in his yard and generously offering the occasional vegetable or seedling. Rest easy, Fran.

John and Susan Roehmer

susan roehmer - June 11 at 01:23 PM



“ I worked with Dr. Huber (Fran) for nearly a decade in my capacity as a scanning electron microscopist at the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History. He brought the most interesting specimens to our lab for us to examine together. He loved to tell me about the selection and physical collection of his research materials. I remember being particularly intrigued by microscopic plant fragments he found in volcanic ash covered porch sweepings from ancient Pompey. He also loved to talk about his second home in Rehoboth, DE. He was a great story teller and good and kind man. I'm proud to have known him. Mary-Jacque Mann, Richmond, VA

M.J. Mann - June 08 at 08:33 AM



“ I didn't know him by name but I knew I had a friend. He shopped at Giant. Every week I got a smile and a hi. He knew my name. He was the Special K protein drink man. We made sure we had it in stock for him...
Thanks Mr. Hueber for being a friend. Heaven as gained a gentleman with a warm smile.
Jamie Middleton-Rehoboth Beach Giant

jamie middelton - June 06 at 08:23 PM



“ So talented. So warm. So happy with Ross. So interested in life. My mother Virginia loved him. I am so sorry.

Catherine Tanzer - June 06 at 04:08 PM



“ Fran was a kind and gentle soul. We first met Ol' Fran many years ago at a picnic in his Rehoboth neighborhood where we had the good fortune of sitting next to him at the dinner table. We knew right away that he was a fascinating man that we we wanted to get to know better. An artist, musician, chef, US Army veteran, Cornell PhD, scientist, and wonderful conversationalist, thankfully we were blessed with many years of his friendship. Rest In Peace, Ol' Fran. Thank you for being our friend. We will miss you but cherish the memories. Love, Mike & Scott

Michael Schirmer - June 06 at 12:10 AM