



Debra Rose Allen

September 5, 1956 - September 21, 2019

A Life Well Lived:

Well Done Good and Faithful Servant

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Our beloved and beautiful Debra Rose went home to be with the Lord on Saturday evening, September 21st, surrounded by her loving family and friends. Her final moments were spent at home being sung to and prayed over as she was released into the arms of her Savior.

After her long and courageous fight with brain cancer, she is finally free from pain, sorrow and suffering forever. Instead, she is now singing, dancing and worshipping with all of Heaven's angels. Her past fights with cancer and illness, her strong desire to continue fighting until the very end, and most of all her unwavering faith and hope in her good and faithful Savior, was a beautiful testimony to every single person around her, as she continually kept her eyes on Jesus. She never ceased to encourage and pray for others' needs before her own and let her light shine brightly until Jesus called her home.

Debi was born on September 5, 1956 in Grand Rapids, Michigan to Vincil and Donna Salyer. The oldest of three children, she dearly loved her mom, dad, and brothers, Vincent 'Rod' and Kevin. She had a wonderful relationship with her mom and dad, and her brothers who loved and cared for her so well as she bravely fought cancer until the end.

After graduating from Indiana Wesleyan College with her Teaching Degree, Debi moved to Oregon where she pursued her passion to teach children about Jesus while pouring His love into them.

It was in Oregon that she met the love of her life, and future husband, David Allen. The

couple was married on May 16, 1987 in Wilsonville, Oregon where they made their home together. They loved to spend time together, serve at church, enjoyed time with their friends and family, travel, hiking, and especially going to the beach together, which was Debi's favorite place.

Debi was known best for the joy that children brought to her as she taught, served, and loved any child who God brought into her life. No one made her laugh and smile like a child and she especially loved spending as much time as she could with her nieces, nephews, great nieces and great nephews. She lovingly called her nieces "her girls" from the time they were born, and was always more like a mother to them. She referred to herself as "Grauntie" Debi to her great nieces and nephews, Travarase, Faith, Jahvon, Tristan, Abigail, Levi, Maeley, Jude, Grace and Tyler and was the dearest and most precious "grandma" to them all. We know she is finally loving on and laughing with her own babies that she was never able to hold on this earth.

She will always be remembered for her contagious smile and laughter which lit up a room. Debi had the deepest love for her husband and her entire family. Debi loved to bless people in any way possible, and she enjoyed sharing her love of delicious food, chocolate, coffee and especially the beach. Another important thing to Debi was spending time back home in Michigan with her family. Most of all she will be remembered for her joy and her witness of her relationship with Jesus Christ, and the many people who were shown Jesus by her love for Him.

The words she held so tightly to as she finished her race were; "All that I've needed, Thy hand has provided. Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord unto me."

Her surviving family members are numerous but include:

David Allen, husband of 32 years.

Donna Salyer, mother; Vincil Salyer, father; Vincent 'Rod' Salyer, Kevin Salyer, brothers; and Kelly Cole, sister-in-law.

Tom and Daryl Allen, father and mother in law; Lori Sesko, Chris Birdsall, Kathy Schwarzin, sisters-in-law.

Nieces and Nephews: Alisha and husband Brian Silkey, Mandy and husband Donnie Hamilton, Molly Salyer, Kiah Salyer and partner Andrew Estrada, Krystalyn Salyer and partner Travis Franklin, Angelyn and husband Jon Lauderback.

Michael Sesko Jr., Courtney and husband Codie Goldman, Brice Birdsall, Brooke Birdsall and Colton Schwarzin.

We are so thankful she is reunited in heaven with her unborn babies, grandparents, her sister-in-law, Tamara Salyer, and her niece, Kayleah Salyer.

The family is so thankful for the outpouring of love that has been shown as we mourn our precious wife, daughter, sister, daughter-in-law, sister-in-law and aunt, but also rejoice that her faith has now been made sight as she is forever with the Lord in heaven. There are so many who love her and will miss her so very much. The number of lives she has touched is innumerable.

Debi's celebration of life service will be held at The Neighborhood Church.

Address: 21065 SW Stafford Rd, Tualatin, OR 97062.

Date: 9/29/19

Time: Celebration of Life service begins at 3:00 PM Sunday afternoon, reception to follow with light refreshments.

Due to Debi's love of children, she asked that in lieu of flowers memorial donations please be made to the following:

St. Judes Children's Research Hospital:

Dedicated to ending childhood cancer...

<https://www.stjude.org/donate>

Doernbechers Children's hospital:

Where Debi's precious grand nephew Jude has been treated and so well cared for...

<https://www.onwardohsu.org/donation>

Crisis Pregnancy Center:

In honor of our unborn children and for God's precious children who are unable to fight for themselves...

<https://first-image.org/gift/>

Events

SEP **Celebration of Life** 03:00PM
29

The Neighborhood Church

21065 SW Stafford Rd, Tualatin, OR, US, 97062

Comments



“ For days I have struggled with writing about Debi, her life, her impact on our lives. I have shied away from looking through pictures, going on Facebook to see other's memories. It has been as if I cannot imagine a world without Debi.

For over 30 plus years she has moved in and out of our family's life seamlessly-as a beloved friend, an adopted sister and aunt, as sister in Christ. We have shared births and deaths, more food and laughter than is imaginable. She was there for our kids births, their parties, their school and sports achievements. She was their counselor at camps, and a trusted listener and encourager. We have walked most of our adult lives together.

I was present when she fell in love with David, I watched their relationship grow. We shared in the joy of their wedding day and the heartbreak of her miscarriages. I watched them graciously love not only their biological families, but their community and their church families. I watched them love life, even in the midst of so many health challenges. I watched Debi push thru pain to focus on the needs of others. In all, I watched them always acknowledge God and his grace in their lives. They were such an example of not focusing on themselves, but always on their love of God and their care for others.

Today we will go and celebrate a life so very well lived. If I am silent, please know that it is not because there is nothing to say, no honor to give, no impact to remember. Instead it is because my heart is too full, too sad, too inadequate, to say all that I wish could be said.

We have been so blessed to have known and shared life with her. I am, we are, so very grateful of the blessing she has been to all of us.

Rich and Karla Hunt - September 29 at 03:41 PM



“ We lived by Deb & Dave next door. Deb and I would have good visits. My grandchildren lived for 10 months with us and Deb adored them both. When Deb went thru breast cancer I was living by her then. We kept special talks back then. I loved her as my neighbor but also MY FRIEND. Back in 2015 I ran into Deb at the farmers market and told her I had breast cancer now. We hugged and I treasure her hugs and friendship I shared with her.

I will miss my friend and I know God has her in his arms. I pray Dave has strength to get through these next few days and know how many people loved Debra and that we are here if Dave needs anything. God bless the family, Kurt & Jan Wolfer

Jan & Kurt Wolfer - September 28 at 07:06 PM



“ Auntie Debi always had a way of making anything fun. If I was pouting about something she always found a way to make me smile. If I felt left out she always made sure to include me. She taught me to always look out for ways to help and to be kind. For her kindness was not just a response to things that happened in life, it

was an action. She always listened to little children and made them feel heard. There is nothing better that you can do for a child than listen to them. She read me countless bedtime stories, nursery time stories, or you know, any time stories. She helped pass on a love of reading, crafts, chocolate, and when I was a teenager she bought me my first cup of coffee. She was always teaching me something and she always lead me back to Jesus during any lesson she was teaching me. I'll never be able to repay her for all that she's given me but I will always have the love she gave me and I pray that I'm always able to give love to others the way she did. Here are a few of the pictures I found of her while going through old photo albums. She helped me get ready on countless Halloween's and was at almost every one of my birthday parties I had as a child. She put up with my shenanigans, even when I pretended to be a puppy at my 101 Dalmatians themed 7th birthday party she loved me unconditionally even when I was being a complete dork. She helped my mom make my birthdays truly special! This week we went to Mo's in Cannon Beach to get away and take some time to think of her especially. I thought of her as I sipped my hot coco on the patio and watched the perfect sunset which felt like god had made especially for us to remember how beautiful Debi was and how the spirit of her love surrounds us. Her prayers for me cover me and give me hope. I'll see her soon one of these days and I'm so grateful for that promise.



amanda choin - September 26 at 05:25 PM



“ I'm so glad to read your beautiful memories of our Debi. I read it to her father too. Thanks again for the kind & heartwarming support you gave the whole family after she passed. Love, her brother Kevin & her father Vince

Kevin Salyer - September 28 at 02:56 PM



“ Debi loved children - all children! She loved to teach and nurture them. She was an important part of our church Wilsonville, OR when I served as pastor there. She and Dave loved life and shared it with many people. Everyone knew Debi loved Jesus and wanted everyone to know Him. How greatly she will be missed, but how blessed she is in heaven today. We'll see you one of these days, Debi.

Floyd McCallum - September 26 at 04:56 PM



“ Cousin Debi Was My Cousin She Was The Sweetest She Brought Joy To So Many Others She Was A Beautiful Soul ! She Was Wonderful To My Sister CarlaJo! She Will Be Greatly Missed Love Cousin Lucie

Lucie Niece - September 26 at 04:20 PM



“ Hi Lucie,
Beautiful words. My Dad says, 'Lucie you said it right'.
Love, Kevin & Uncle Vince

Kevin Salyer - September 28 at 02:59 PM

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Carole Terrell - September 25 at 08:14 PM

“ Debi and I met in Junior High school and became best friends shortly after. She was painfully shy throughout most of high school but slowly came out of her shell. By our senior year she and I were the between act entertainment for the school play. At our Senior Class night, she spontaneously dared me to follow her across the stage pretending to be fans during another student's Elvis impersonation. We remained friends during college and were Maid of Honor in each other's weddings. Even though we did not see each other often, we were always able to catch up and never had enough time. Debi is probably the sweetest person I have been blessed to know. She was such a consistent support to me in the early stages of my cancer battle this year while fighting her own battle. I will miss her sweet spirit, beautiful smile and loving outlook on life. She was a positive light in my world.

Carole Terrell - September 25 at 07:50 PM



“ Beautiful!!! Thank you for sharing ♡

Kelly - September 26 at 03:34 PM



“ Thank you for your loving message Carole.
Love, her brother Kevin.

Kevin Salyer - September 28 at 02:48 PM