



# Deborah Rush

APR 20, 1952 - FEB 15, 2012



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## Deborah Rush

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**D**eborah J. Rush, 59, passed from this earthly life on February 15, 2012, at her home in Burlingame, after a brave 10-year battle with cancer. She leaves behind her bereaved parents, Jack and Charmaine Rush of Foster City, and her devoted brother Barry Rush, also of Foster City. Deborah, a life-long resident of San Mateo County, was born on April 20, 1952 in San Mateo, was brought up in Hillsborough, and graduated from Burlingame High School in 1970. She then went to San Jose State and received her BA in English in 1974. Her interest in literature and theater lasted through her life, leading her to standing subscriptions for American Conservatory Theater, Best of Broadway, 42nd Street Moon, and the San Francisco Ballet. She was also one of the first participants at the Dickens Fair and Renaissance Faire (c.1970), 'living-history' events that began in the San Francisco Bay Area. The experience of these costumed events, combined with the influence of her mother Charmaine (a former fashion model), led to even greater interest in costuming and historic fashion. She became well-known as a vintage fashion collector, with a museum-quality collection which she presented at special fashion shows across the state. She often dressed in vintage gowns while going out dancing to big bands such as the Royal Society Jazz Orchestra and the Peter Mintun Orchestra, and was a well-known member of the Art Deco Society of California. But Deborah also had many unexpected facets. She was one of the first visitors to Disneyland in 1955, and she and the rest of her family were lifelong Disney fans. She was a true football fanatic, not just rooting for the 49ers, but learning and following the game with her father Jack, who brought her as a tot to meet the 49ers of the 1950s. Her love for football also took her to many games at College of San Mateo, where her brother Barry was a coach. She was a computer systems analyst for Bay Area companies including Wells Fargo Bank and American President Lines shipping. She was a connoisseur of murder mysteries, especially vintage ones from the 1920s and 30s. And, growing up



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in the 1960s and 70s in the San Francisco Bay Area, she had also been to see all the bands of that era such as Jefferson Airplane and Janis Joplin with Big Brother and the Holding Company, enjoying the music and the psychedelic light shows. In every one of these areas of her life, Deborah made friends with her enthusiasm, joy, love and generosity. In the later years, she reached out and made friends on the internet. In fact, one Facebook friend hosted her for her last trip to Europe, which she enjoyed with all the old verve. Sadly, her ten-year battle with cancer began to drain her energy in August, and after a long hospital stay and a slow decline at home, she slipped away on the day after Valentine's Day... much-loved and in the hearts of many. A funeral is scheduled for Thursday, February 23, 1:00 pm, in the Chapel at Skylawn Memorial Park in San Mateo (located at the intersection of Highway 92 and Skyline Boulevard; see website for directions.) Memorial gifts may be directed to Deborah's most important charities: Make-A-Wish Foundation, SmileTrain, and Toys for Tots.



## Tribute Wall

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**Anonymous** posted:

I'm in shock I just found out today, Sge was one of my best friends at Burlingame High. One summer we worked at her grandfathes zipper factory, our job was to test the sippers. We had such fun and many laughs.Shd was a beautiful peson and I still can' believe she has left us. Mydeepest condolence to her family. My heart is aching. Find happens and we will all you again.Will miss you Deborah...love tiy###imported-begin###Dominique Festoc###imported-end###

January 19 at 11:34 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

xtraordinarily hip youngster acquaintances. then The holiday pep up daytime hours, this extraordinary allocate circumstance, Pandora Beads introduced happily.###imported-begin###inhepeloaxila###imported-end###

November 23 at 4:03 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

Dearest Jack, Charmaine and Barry,Don and I are so sorry to hear about Deborah's passing. There is no way we can understand your sorrow. Deborah was a lovely, unique lady. Remember, she is in heaven and hurts no more. You will one day see her again. Your little girl with be with you. Once more, you'll share laughter, smiles, snuggles and tears of joy. It will be very hard for you to feel anything much for a while. We want you to know that we will be thinking of you and we are here if you need us. Love you, Joan and Don###imported-begin###Don and Joan vonBuskirk###imported-end###

February 23 at 2:52 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

I will always remember as a dear friend and all the things that I loved to do with her in the 70's while we worked together. Good bye for now. Till we meet again on the other side.###imported-begin###Larry Berg###imported-end###

February 22 at 2:10 PM



## Tribute Wall

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**Anonymous** posted:

Our hearts are very heavy and sad to hear of the passing of Debbie. We are very sorry for your loss Uncle Jack, Aunt Charmaine, and Cousin Barry. Please take comfort that Debbie is with God now and there you will be with her again. Love & Sympathy, Marcy, Lei, Tasha, and Taysha Silva February 22, 2012

February 22 at 1:33 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

I love the many facets of the jewel that was Deborah's life. One minute she was wearing a museum-quality vintage dress with a cocktail in hand. Next minute, she was cheering on her beloved 49ers. The minute after that she was off on a traveling adventure to parts unknown. And always with her unmistakable grace and class. She will always be in my thoughts and prayers. Unfortunately, I won't be able to make the service, but I will send my love along with Frannie G, my wife. With much love and sympathy, Steven

February 22 at 11:37 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

Even though Debbie never had any children of her own, she always held up her God-children in the greatest esteem and always felt she should be there for them. I have always felt that was very admirable. Bless you, Debbie

February 21 at 8:33 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

My Deepest Regret's go out to My uncle Jack & aunt Charmaine and Barry. I will Be attending the service.

February 20 at 12:56 PM



## **Memories only last if you share them**

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



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