



Deborah Benjamin Pegel

June 29, 1924 - January 3, 2024

Deborah Benjamin Pegel of Asheville, North Carolina, died of natural causes on January 3, 2024, at the age of ninety-nine. In her passing, she now joins her beloved husband, the late Dr. Louis Pegel, M.D., with whom she spent 45 years of marriage.

She was born in Philadelphia, PA, in 1924. She had two elder siblings, Kenny and Marjorie. As a young person, Deb loved being outdoors and playing all matter of sports. She was an excellent tennis player, loved to swim, and could be found playing street hockey outside her home in downtown Philly. She pursued this passion by attending Russel Sage College where she obtained a degree in Physical Education. She went on to teach at Case Western Reserve University and then Drexel University.

She and Lou were married in 1948. As they started a family, Deb was a devoted wife and homemaker. When Lou was beginning his medical practice, you could find Deb at his office in Flourtown greeting patients and managing daily affairs. Both Deb and Lou were avid world travelers.

In 1991, Deb and Lou retired to Hendersonville, NC. Where they continued their long-standing commitment to the Episcopal Church by joining St. John in the Wilderness. Deb was active in the choir. During her time in Hendersonville, she continued her commitment to community service while

volunteering for Meals on Wheels, the American Red Cross, and Hospice. She was honored for her work by Land of the Sky, Volunteer of the Year.

In 2005, she moved to Asheville and lived behind her daughter's house in what she called her "tree house" - she loved it there. She was an active member of Grace Episcopal Church and loved being a member of the choir. You could never find Deb without a pet dog. She brought immense joy to her family, particularly her four grandsons. Always happy, generous, and kind, Deb was loved by all who met her.

She is survived by son, Robert Louis Pegel, wife, Nancy Pegel; daughter, Barbara Williams, husband, Robert Williams; grandsons, Robert (wife Allison), Asher, Dylan & Joseph Williams; great-grandchildren: Abby, Camden, and Monroe Williams.

A service will be held at Grace Episcopal Church, on Saturday, January 13, 2024, at 11:00 am. In lieu of flowers, the family encourages donations to Meals on Wheels <https://www.mowabc.org/>.

Previous Events

Service

JAN 13. 11:00 AM (ET)

Grace Episcopal Church
871 Merrimon Avenue
Asheville, NC 28804
graceparish@bellsouth.net
<http://graceepiscopalchurch.us/>

Tribute Wall



“ Rob and Barb, I've just found that Aunt Debbie passed away in January. I'm sending lots of love and hugs to you both. What a great, long life she lived. We lost touch with your family once Dad passed away and I feel bad that it happened. I have a lot of great memories with you both and your Mom and Dad. Even though there was a distance between our homes, we did grow up together. Maybe some day we will be able to get together again. Lots of love, Scott Mauger

Scott Mauger - August 02, 2024 at 05:55 PM

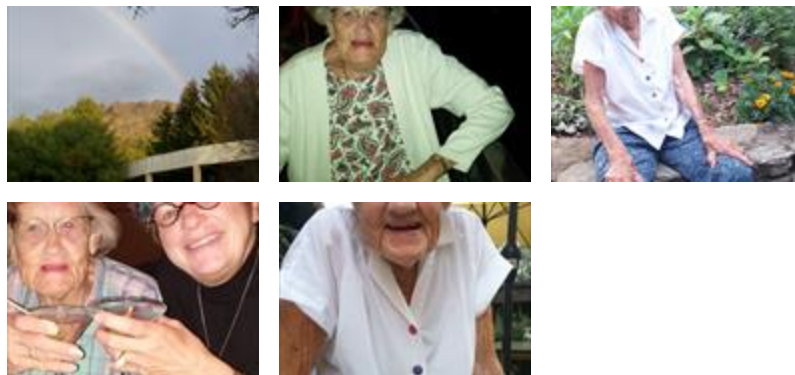


“ Deb loved Bob's whiskey sours and on Friday we would join her up in the tree house and enjoy them.

Mary Allyn - January 11, 2024 at 06:13 PM



“ 9 files added to the album Deb - my church



Toni Watkins - January 10, 2024 at 11:56 AM

TW

Deb my Friend....I am Grateful that I had her in my life. I know that I am a better thanks to her. Love to you all

Toni Watkins - January 10, 2024 at 11:57 AM

SS

“ Deb was a power house of energy. I was honored to know her. Her kindness and service to others was inspiring to see. My favorite memory of her was her trying to teach me how to knit. I was not the most proficient student but her patience and humor will always be a special memory I'll carry with me. She will be missed.



silvia swiger - January 09, 2024 at 11:43 AM

RW

Hi Silvia, Thank you for this remembrance and particularly all the help and support through out this period. We could not imagine having a truer friend.

Robert V Williams - January 09, 2024 at 02:09 PM

DS

“ Seventy-seven years ago my parents named me after my dad's sweet, adorable cousin Debbie Benjamin who was twenty-two at the time. I cherish a photo of her holding me at age six months or so. Big Deb and Little Deb.

Deborah Sturdevant - January 08, 2024 at 02:54 PM

RW

Hi Deb, she passed quietly with grace embraced by just about the entire family. Thank you for your remembrance.

Robert V Williams - January 09, 2024 at 02:05 PM

MH

“ *I loved Deb. I had the honor of caring for her during my employment at Brooks Howell. What a spunky lady.*

Margaret Holtam - January 07, 2024 at 11:27 AM

RW

Many thanks to you and all the staff who cared for Deb. She loved you all, The family can not thank you enough for all that you did.

Robert V Williams - January 09, 2024 at 02:02 PM