**Denise Suzanne Durst**, only daughter of Gerald "Jerry" Richard (1912-1984) and Betty Jean (Benedict) Durst, was born 31 October 1950, Ingham County, Michigan.

Denise's father Jerry was born in Indiana the son of Elzy Mollenhour (or Moulenhour) and Ethel Creighbourn but by 1920 his surname had been changed to Durst. In 1930 Jerry Durst graduated from Eastern High School, Lansing, Ingham County and in 1943 entered the US Army. Jerry was honorably discharged from service in 1947. Jerry, married, divorced, and then in 1947 married pretty Miss Betty Benedict in Lansing. The

couple had three children; Randy Michael, born 26 September 1948,

Denise Suzanne, born 31 October 1950 and J. Richard, who died as an infant, 11 April 1954. Jerry and Betty for many years were very involved with the Harvest Home Festival of the Ingham County Hospital and Rehabilitation Center. Betty also worked, for a number of years, as an Okemos High School secretary.



Announcing changes in the day's schedule, secretary Mrs. Betty Durst operates the intercom.



1968 Senior, Okemos High School

Denise followed her brother in graduating from Okemos High School. Randy graduated in 1966 while Denise graduated in 1968.

Always "sunny", Denise was delightful and active in high school.

1968 Okemos Tomahawk

DENISE DURST Business Club Drama Club G.A.A. Pep Club Ski Club Thespians

#### 1965 Tomahawk

# Acting Talents Displayed in 'Night Must Fall'

The OHS Drama Club has the distinction of being the wealthiest club in the school, as a result of the variety and type of activities in which it engages.

A fall and spring play are presented annually. A large profit was drawn on Emlyn William's Night Must Fall, the fall production. The club's first dramatic mystery, it starred Bonnie Lantz as Mrs. Bramson; Mark White, Dan; Tonnie Kissee, Olivia Grayne; Irene Townsend, Mrs. Terence; Arlo Peterson, Detective Belsize; Dan Follette, Hubert Laurie; Fay Nosow, Nurse Libby; Denise Durst, Dora Parkoe; and was directed by club sponsor Carol Ford.

Revenue from the 1963 musical *Bye Bye Birdie* exceeded \$400. Club members have added to the treasury with commissions earned selling coupon books for MSU theater productions. Drama Club has invested its money in \$350 worth of lights as well as numerous props and makeup. Playreading committees which are responsible for reviewing plays for the club have collected a 80-90 book library.

In its two-year existence Drama Club has not only provided entertainment for the community through its productions but has contributed to the cultural advancement of the school. Cast and crew members investigate Lansing's stock of second hand stores, study antiques, learn staging methods, how to handle lighting equipment, makeup techniques, and generally gain an insight into the theater. From reading, producing, and acting in a variety of plays, all involved acquire a higher degree of literary understanding and knowledge.

Officers for the past year were Arlo Peterson, president; vice-president, Irene Townsend; secretary, Barb Vary; Dave Brower, treasurer; Student Parliament representative, Karen Beck; and historian Cathy Foster.

## Tips Up for Ski Club



A surprised quartet including Tonnie Kissee, Dan Follette, Irene Townsend and Denise Durst, excitedly read one of Dan's letters.



1966 Tomahawk

Ski Club, Row 1: H. Wever, L. Varner, B. Kozma, L. Goossen, D. Lewis, Mr. R. Westrate, sponsor; J. Westwood, D. Peets, B. Jacoby, J. Oade, R. Hill. Row 2: J. Whitmore, M. Cheney, G. Crandell, S. Wood, M. Johnson, C. Henderson, M. Nestor, C. Wood, D. Durst, P. Lyon, P. Gulliver, P. White, Row 3: Kathy Weidman, M. Lewis, J. Delano, E. MacNeil, B. Conley, J. Gaa, J. Finney, M. Dortch, M. Premer, B. McGlone, D. Ahti, Row 4: S. Steketee, S. Dunkelberg, J. Severance, K. Jamison, D. Johnson, C. Bidwell,

P. Daily, S. Paines, S. Tribell, D. McDonald, D. Laitala, S. Seer, Row 5: S. Foster, D. Moyer, E. Raskey, D. Valkanoff, D. Hohl, S. Marshall, T. Gaa, R. Olson, D. Gulliver, B. Vandervoort, G. Neumann, K. Heinisch. Row 6: T. Peets, B. Steketee, C. Stoppel, J. Downer, J. Peters, K. Cobb, J. Blomstrom, T. Caldewey, R. Federau, J. McCarthy, S. Premer, J. Thorn. Row 7: B. Brown, M. Premer, W. Wickham, D. Hartman, F. Gifford, M. Brinkman, L. Grassman, M. Mott, C. McQuade, D. Wiley.

1966 Okemos Tomahawk



Drama Club, Row 1: Tonnie Kissee, Wrenn Slocum, Cathy Foster, Jana Edmonson, Cheryl Perkins, Martha Lowry, Jill Frank. Row 2: Carol Sonnemann, Marsha Anderson, Cathy Gatrost, Nancy Britt, Barbara Fishel, Sue Tomber, Row 3: Sue Henry, Diana Hart, Nancy Beck, Fay Nosow, Mary Johnson, Denise Durst. Row 4: Pete Larson, Bill Moulton, Crs. Caldewey.

# GAA Members Participate In Athletics, Using Both School And Commercial Facilities

GAA members are: Bottom—T. Gallop, M. Baker, C. Schultz, D. Hull, P. Lyon, I. Winkel, L. Varner, B. Moyer, P. Kiernan, M. Bauer, S. Salmonson, Mrs. Pasquallucci. 2nd—Barb Cannon, K. Wood, S. Stine, T. Fossum, S. Steele, J. Slocum, S. Edwards, S. Raines, H. Wever, J. Miller, S. Prosser. 3rd—P. Moore, F. Nosow, R. Lawrence, C. Alkire, J. Mercer D. Hilleary, D. Durst, L. Oliver, R. Webb, K. Magee, B. Jacobs, M. Winter. 4tb—N. Wordell, C. Caul, D. Wood, E. Carlson, C. Bauer, C. Giese, C. Jones, S. McCamant, V. Hulbert, P. Brown, B. Carlson, M. Warner, N. Graham. Top—S. Mercer, S. Schoultz, L. Zetterholm, M. Lloyd, C. Kehde, L. Steele, C. Thorn, J. Abbott, M. Eaton, J. Fox, K. Vogt.

1967

Business Club Studies Different Commercial Areas By Taking Trips And Listening To Speakers



Club Officers are: Sitting—Peggy Savage, Marcia Bauer. Standing—Denise Durst, Mary Fox.



1967

Business Club members are: Bottom-P. Stevens, S. Salmonson, M. Bauer, K. Keena, D. Durst, Mrs. Bowker. 2nd-G. Savage, M. Fox, J. Hughes, P. Stiffler, K. Graham, S. Geahan, P. Savage.





Drama Club, *l. to r.*; J. Bode, L. Zetterholm, L. Steele, S. Prosser, S. McCamant, N. Beck G. Gutstein, J. Frank, M. Lowry, M. Johnson, J. Hawkins. Second row, J. Engle, D. VanDommelen, P. Dykstra, W. Mead, P. Kiernan, C. Giacoletto, S. Gutstein, D. Silverman, B. Fishel, M. Ellis, C. Caldewey, B. Craner. Tbird row, B. Parsons, I. Smith, C. Gatrost, J. Heybor, S. Firnhaber, L. Southwell, K. Weidman, P. Dahnke, S. Imshaug, S. Wood. Fourth row K. Hart, P. Brown, D. Travis, S. Henderson, Mr. L. Meyer, R. Mason, S. Mackey, G. Larsson, M. SanClemente, P. Firnhaber, Top row, D. Lantz, M. Lloyd, C. Yelvington, E. Buehler, P. Shedd, M. Ames, L. Antrim, M. White, D. Lewis, S. Tomber, and L. Godfrey.

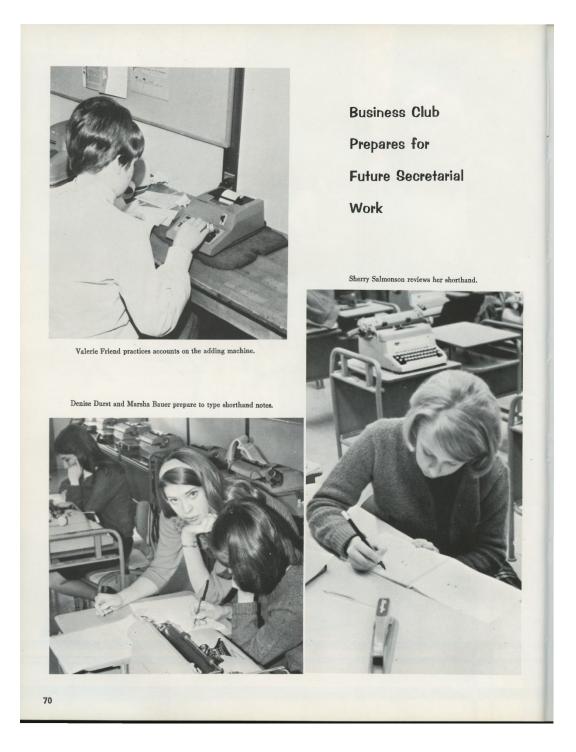
Drama Club Sponsored Two Plays, "It Walks At Midnight" And "Tom Jones"



The cast for, "It Walks at Midnight" is *l. to R. J. Frank, M. Durocher, M. White, L. Antrim, Second row, G. Gutstein, G. Larsson, D. Durst, C. Jackson, Third row, S. Imshaug, J. Engle, B. Sower, and S. Mackey.* 

Cast members rehearse "It Walks at





Denise furthered her education by attending Lansing Business University and Michigan State University.

She married Richard Lawrence Hildreth Jr., 1 July 1972, East Lansing. The couple later divorced.

Single, Denise moved to Palm Beach County, Florida where she would establish herself as a realtor and opened The Specialty Shoppe, Inc.



**Denise Durst** 

# Durst . Meyer

Mr. and Mrs. Jerry R. Durst of West Palm Beach announce the engagement of their daughter Denise Suzanne to William A. Meyer of Ocean Ridge.

A June 28 wedding date is planned, marking the third generation in the Meyer family to be married on this date.

Miss Durst is president of The Specialty Shoppe, Inc., an adver-tising specialty business based in West Palm Beach. She holds an active real estate license and is associated with Meredith Realty, Inc. in West Palm Beach. She attended Lansing Business Univer-sity and Michigan State Univer-sity in East Lansing, Mich.

Meyer is senior vice president of Servico, Inc., a Florida-based national hotel company. He is also a partner in the law firm of Gold, Sax, Meyer & Sirlin in Boca Raton, and the Sax, Meyer, Sirlin Co., which has developed La Costa Del Mar condominiums and the Interstate Plaza office complex, both in Boca Raton, and the Dunes of Ocean Ridge townhomes in Ocean Ridge.

Meyer was graduated from the University of Pennsylvania, Wharton School of Business; the London School of Economics, and Georgetown University Law School.

Meyer is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur I. Meyer of Harri-son, N.Y., and Palm Beach. Arthur I. Meyer is chairman of the board and president of Servico, Inc.

#### The Palm Beach Post, Nov 6, 1980

THE SPECIALTY SHOPPE, INC. is in West Palm Beach on North Congress Avenue. The company has been in business for the past five months and is run by Denise and Betty Durst. Their company handles advertising specialties such as promotional items from "doodads" to distinctive gifts, staff gifts for the executive who does not want to shop ... holidays and special remembrances. There are also sales incentive items and a host of other items from over 400 other specialty companies.

#### The Palm Beach Post, June 14, 1984 Obiturary death of father

#### JERRY RICHARD DURST

JERRY RICHARD DURST Age 71, of West Palm Beach, Fla. Survived by his wife, Betty; son, Randy of WPB; daughter, Denise and (William) Meyer of OceanRidge, Fla; brother, Kylne Durst, of Eagle, Mich; sis-ter, Crystal Kingscott of Mount Clemons, Mich; grandfather of Candice Meyer. Services 11am Friday. In lieu of flowers the family requests donations to Temple Judea Building Fund.



At the Celebrity Waiter luncheon: Betty Durst, **Michael Talbott and Denise Meyer** 

Fort Lauderdale News, Dec 15, 1985 Fundraising event with her mother, Betty



### Weddings

Denise Durst Wed To William Meyer

Denise Suzanne Durst and William Meyer, both of Ocean Ridge, were married June 28 at the Temple Emanu-el, Palm Beach. Rabbi Joel Levine and Rabbi

ceremony. Mrs. Meyer is the daughter of Jerry and Betty Durst of West Palm Beach. Meyer is the son of Arthur and Sydelle Meyer of Cocoanut Row, Palm Beach, and Harrison. N.Y.

The wedding marked the third generation of the groom's family to be married on that date. The groom's parents, and grandpar-

Given in marriage by her father, the bride wore a gown by Eve of Milady. It featured white chiffonetie with a re-embroidered Alencon lace sweetheart neekline, cuffed bishog sleeves and fitted bodice, all adorned with seed pearls and sequins. Her Queen Guenivere hat of reembroidered Alencon lace, with seed pearls and flowers, had illusion veiling with a cathedrallength veil. She carried a

rriage by her fawore a gown by It featured white a neerwheid. Nina C. Veckman of West

Nina C. Veckman of West Palm Beach was the maid of homor. Gail Meyer, the sister of the groom, was bridgesmaid. They wore emerald green taffeta skirts with pastel pink off-shoulder blouses and pink sashes. Jeffrey S. Goldstein of New York was the best man Randy

Jeffrey S. Goldstein of New York was the best man. Randy Durst, the brother of the bride, was usher.

Following the ceremony, a formal dinner was held in the Venetian Ballroom of The Breakers. Music was provided by the Barry Herman Orchestra.

Herman Orchestra. The bride attended Michigan State University and Lansing Business University. She is president of the Specialty Shoppe Inc., an advertising firm, and is an associate with Meredith Realty Inc. of West Palm Beach.

- University of Pennsylvan Wharton School of Business, London School of Economics a the Georgetown University L Scheel

> He is a senior vice president of ervico Inc., a Florida-based otel company. He also is parter in the law firm of Gold, Sax, feyer and Sirlin of Boca Raton. Following a wedding trip to apan, the couple will reside at 711 N. Ocean Blvd., Ocean

And the third room's family had determined and water NV And Devices De

She met and married William A. "Bill" Meyer, 28 June 1981, Palm Beach. Bill, a graduate of the University of

The Palm Beach Post, Dec 23, 2009



William A. and Denise Meyer

Pennsylvania, London School of Economics and Georgetown University Law School, was an up and coming businessman in Palm Beach, an eastern coastal area of Florida.



Denise Meyer, Bill Meyer Palm Beach Daily News, Mar 18, 2015

Denise and Bill would have two children: Candice and

Andrew "A. J." She and Bill would build a 37year multifaceted life

together.



South Florida Sun Sentinel, Mar 23, 2017



Palm Beach Daily News, June 19, 2011
Denise Meyer

Palm Beach Daily News, Sunday, July 5, 1981-Page 17

## OBITUARY

# Denise Meyer

Denise S. Meyer of Palm Beach died on Saturday, March 24, 2018. She was 67.

She was the wife of

William A. Meyer, former board chairman of the Kravis Center, former vice chairman of JFK Medical Center and chairman of Meyer Jabara Hotels.

She designed

free, the construction of

Beach Gardens; designed

marked home; worked on

the 1860 carriage house

of her son and daugh-

two spec homes in Palm

Temple Judea in Palm

Beach; designed and

rebuilt her 1938 land-

and oversaw, for



Mrs. Meyer

ter-in-law, Andrew (AJ) and Jess, in Cambridge, Mass.; and worked on the design of the Arthur I. Meyer Jewish Academy.

She had a blog on CaringBridge. org, detailing her battle against cancer.

A resident of Palm Beach County for 42 years and Palm Beach for 25 years, Mrs. Mey-

er grew up in East Lansing, Mich. She was a travel agent and then worked in the Michigan State Legislature.

Upon moving to Palm Beach County in 1976, she became assistant to John Sansbury, then the county administrator. She later ran the office of lunar astronaut Ed Mitchell and subsequently established her own advertising specialties company, The Specialty Shoppe.

In addition to her husband of 37 years, son and daughter-in-law, she is survived by a brother, Randy, and his wife, Maura; and her mother. She donated her organs that did not have cancer and the rest of her body to science.

Funeral services were held Tuesday.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to the Arthur I. Meyer Jewish Academy, 5225 Hood Road, Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33418: www.meyeracademy.org.

Her death from cancer came 24 March 2018, Palm Beach County. Dee Dee was 67. Always thinking of others, her cancer-free organs were donated, and her body contributed to medical research.

#### MEYER, Denise S.

Denise S. Meyer, beloved wife of William A. Meyer, died on Saturday, March 24, 2018. She was 67. Denise was not yet ready to die as she had too many projects that were awaiting completion. Always available at the call of a loved one or friend, she would stop whatever she was doing to help with the things other people hated. She loved to organize closets and help people move. She fre-



quently made her considerable design and construction expertise available to friends for free, re-doing entire houses and apartments for the sheer joy of seeing their appreciation and delight in her friends faces.

In addition to numerous houses and apartments, she designed and oversaw, for free, the construction of Temple Judea in Palm Beach Gardens. She also worked tirelessly on the design of the Arthur I. Meyer Jewish Academy. She also designed and supervised the construction of two spec homes in Palm Beach, designed and rebuilt the 1938 landmarked home where she died, and the 1860 carriage house of her son, AJ, in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Denise preferred to work alone, on her own schedule, often pulling all-nighters when her creativity was at its peak.

Although active in many charities, she preferred to let others take the limelight as ball chairman or luncheon chair person. She was perfectly happy working behind the scenes, using her outstanding organizational skills and attention to detail to make an event or occasion truly memorable.

When her cancer was first discovered in January 2017, she started a blog on CaringBridge.org and recounted on almost a daily basis what she was going through in the hospital, in her family, in her body and, most importantly, in her mind. Although she tried chemotherapy, she refused to let it take over her brain or her beautiful hair. As it went from blonde to white, she remained as beautiful on the outside as she was on the inside. Her blogs on CaringBridge were strong, poignant, funny, and real. At her death, the site had more than 21,500 hits.

A resident of Palm Beach County for 42 years and Palm Beach for 25 years, Denise grew up in East Lansing, Michigan. She traveled the world as travel agent and then worked in the Michigan State legislative. Upon moving to Palm Beach County in 1976, she became assistant to John Sansbury, the then County Administrator. She later ran the office of lunar astronaut Ed Mitchell and subsequently started her own advertising specialties company, The Specialty Shoppe.

She is survived by her husband of 37 years, Bill; children Candice and Andrew (AJ) and his wife, Jess; brother, Randy and his wife, Maura; and her mother, Betty.

In keeping with her concern for others, she donated her organs that did not have cancer and the rest of her body to science.

Funeral services will be held at the Cohen Pavilion of the Kravis Center on Tuesday, March 27, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.

The family will sit Shiva at the home of Bill Meyer, 334 El Vedado Road, Palm Beach, Florida, during the day, 12 noon to 4:00 p.m., and evening, 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Wednesday and Thursday, March 28th and 29th. Minyan will be at 6:30 p.m. on those days.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Arthur I. Meyer Jewish Academy: www.meyeracademy.org