



## Francis Joseph Dever Jr.

August 25, 1946 - July 22, 2020

Francis Joseph Dever, Jr., 1946-2020.

Frank Dever passed away at age 73 on July 22, 2020, from complications of the COVID-19 virus. Frank was born on August 25, 1946, to Francis J. and Marie K. (Gaudreau) Dever, of Quincy, MA. He was the oldest of a large, loving family that grew to include three sisters, a brother, and many cousins and close friends. Following in the footsteps of his father and paving the way for his siblings and children, Frank graduated from Boston College in 1968. He worked first in finance until a role as controller of Dunkin' Donuts in Randolph, MA, offered Frank entry into the restaurant business.

Frank relocated to Orlando, FL, in 1980, where he worked to develop General Mills restaurants internationally. As Vice President of the International Division, Frank made dozens of round trips to Japan during the 1980s and established Red Lobster restaurants in Canada. In 1993 he became a resident of Lake Mary, FL, where he began a career in commercial real estate and published two books that documented the process of real estate sales and leases. Frank served his community as a mentor to high school students enrolled in the Take Stock in Children program and as an active member in the Lake Mary Rotary where he was recently awarded a Paul Harris Fellow in appreciation for his contributions to The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International.

Frank was a sharp, witty, friendly, and deeply loving person. He was a young dad of two children, and if that meant he missed both the draft and the protests of the 1960s, he embraced the music of the period with all his heart. Frank was a good baseball player as a youth, and a coach to his son's Little League teams in Needham, MA. The Boston Red Sox broke his heart for decades, until they started to win the World Series. Frank loved to catch a spring training game or two in Winter Haven each year, and he made sure his children grew up knowing how to score a game. Frank was a passionate follower of the Boston Celtics and later the Orlando Magic, and of Boston College football. He was an avid reader of terrible fiction, typically featuring spies and elaborate espionage plots. In losing Frank, Florida has lost one drop of water from the giant blue wave he was hoping to see in November's election.

Frank was predeceased by his parents and by his nephew, John Jorgensen. He is survived by his wife, Diane Rose Dever of Longwood, FL, and by his children Carolyn Dever (and spouse Paul Young) of Hanover, NH, and Mark Dever (and spouse Valérie Kindt) of Washington, DC. Frank was a proud Poppy to his three beautiful grandchildren, Amber Mohrmann Lewis (and spouse Joben Lewis), Noah Dever Young, and Samuel Kindt Dever, and his brand-new great grandson, Seth Josiah Lewis. He is survived also by his aunt and godmother, Geraldine Mayer, his aunt Mary Dever, by his siblings Jeanne-Marie Ryan (and spouse John), Anne Dever-McEvoy, Martha Dever, and Brian Dever (and spouse Alice Braunstein), by his sister in law Susan Rose Jorgensen (and spouse Niels) and his brother in law Tim Rose (and spouse Karen). Frank is also survived by his loving nieces, nephews, and cousins and their families, and by his friends in both Florida and New England.

Celebrations of Frank's life will be held in Florida and Massachusetts when his

friends and family can gather safely. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the John Jorgensen Endowed Cello Scholarship at the Hartt School, University of Hartford, 200 Bloomfield Ave., West Hartford, CT 06117 (attn. Christine E. Adams), or to the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU.org).

The family of Francis Joseph Dever, Jr. invites you to leave a message of condolence on the Tribute Wall created in his memory.

# Tribute Wall

SC

“ *Diane and Family - Frank will always live in my memory as one of the smarter, astute and humorous friends I was blessed to work and interact with in our days together at General Mills Restaurant Group. From Japan to Canada and in the midst of many a management tracking session, Frank always had the broadest, yet keenest, perspectives. A good friend in all senses of that word, he was an easy person to love and respect. He advocated for me in many situations, and we had that kind of bond where you just picked up where you left off no matter how long the absence of contact. Frank was a rare person, not afraid to be himself, and I will fervently try to add to his effort here in Minnesota to create a huge blue wave in November. I send my love to you and enduring thoughts of goodwill for the children I know he loved dearly.*

*Stoddard Crane  
Stillwater, MN*

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**Stoddard Crane** - August 04, 2020 at 11:27 PM

DD

*Dearest Stoddard,  
I so appreciate your words and memories of Frank. You were always one of his favorite people and we both have wonderful memories of both you and Lucia. Especially our trip to the Jazz Festival in New Orleans after we had moved to Mobile. Losing him so suddenly has been a shock and great loss for me and his family, but memories like yours have given us great comfort and encouragement that his life and love will live on in our hearts and memories. Fondly, Diane*

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**Diane Dever** - August 07, 2020 at 12:49 PM

JD

“ Dear Diane & Family: I am so very sorry to read of Frank's passing. Frank and I met around 1980 as I was VP of operations with Red Lobster and then Olive Garden. Frank was always so supportive, available and helpful anytime we spoke. After leaving in 1991 I began my Commercial Real Estate career. As Frank entered that field we once again connected, often discussing different deals and market strategies. Every once in a while Frank called just asking me how I am my family were doing. He was ALWAYS so kind, considerate and often spoke Lovingly of you and family. You ARE and Will REMAIN in my prayers.  
In HIS GRIP  
Jim Densmore  
Clermont, FL

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**James K Densmore** - August 03, 2020 at 11:08 AM

DD

Dear Jim,  
Thank you so much for posting your condolence note. it means so much to me and our family to know that Frank is remembered well by his many friends from over the years. It is a comfort to know he is remembered by you for the fond connection you had over the years.  
Gratefully, Diane

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**Diane Dever** - August 07, 2020 at 12:54 PM

TO

“ Dear Carolyn and all of the Dever family, I am so sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers with you. Tommy O'Malley

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**Tommy O'Malley** - July 27, 2020 at 09:31 AM

MC

“ To Anne and all the Dever Family,  
I am so sorry to hear of the loss of Frank, especially to this terrible virus. I didn't know him but, like his sister Anne who I have the privilege and pleasure of knowing for 50 years, clearly he loved life and lived it to the fullest.

*So hard to lose a sibling; it's a huge loss and may you be comforted in this time of sorrow.*

*My condolences,  
Mary Kickham Carney*

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**Mary Carney** - July 26, 2020 at 04:36 PM

BY

“ Diane;

*Teresa and I are praying for you and your family. I have so many good memories of Frank from Northland's men's group, and the Prostak's annual white elephant Christmas party. He was a just an all around great man, and he will be missed.*

*Bill & Teresa Yingling*

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**Bill yingling** - July 25, 2020 at 05:17 PM

DD

*Thank you so much Bill and Teresa, Frank certainly enjoyed you both, especially through the great fun we had at the Christmas party. i am so grateful for Teresa's support as well, especially when Frank was recovering from that awful fall two years ago. We both considered you to be wonderful friends. Your words are a wonderful comfort. Sincerely,  
Diane*

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**Diane Dever** - August 07, 2020 at 12:56 PM

DY

“ Hi, Diane, Just wanted to say how sad I am for you and the family! I enjoyed getting to know Frank, at least a little! He was a fun guy! We pray for you as you grieve. It is long and difficult, but we will be here--call if you need to! Dave and Joann

David & Joann Young - July 25, 2020 at 10:50 AM

DD

Thanks you so much Dave and Joann. Your prayers and support have been greatly appreciated by me and the family throughout this tragic loss and the grief we are feeling.

Diane Dever - August 07, 2020 at 12:59 PM

CB

“ That is a beautiful tribute. There is so much I did not know about Frank. I am lifting up you and all your family as you begin to realize your great loss. Praying for your hearts to be comforted.



Christy Braman - July 24, 2020 at 09:46 PM

DD

Thank you Christy for your prayers and support. Sending love to you, Diane

Diane Dever - August 07, 2020 at 01:00 PM

AM

“ Diane, I remember what a kind man Frank was. Although I didn't know him all that well, any interactions I recall with him at Darden we're always professional, yet very down to earth. He always had such a warm and friendly smile.  
I know how deeply sad you are and your children and my heart aches for all of you. Frank will be missed by many. Please hold all your wonderful memories close and I will be praying for you to have peace and comfort knowing how many people are here for you.  
Love and prayers, Andrea Murphy

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**Andrea Murphy** - July 24, 2020 at 05:41 PM

SF

My heart is broken for you and your family. Frank was a sweet, funny, kind man. I loved seeing photos of him with the grands. The joy on their faces together was heartwarming. I know he will be missed by many, but none more than you, Diane. You will remain in my thoughts and prayers. I pray God will comfort and surround you during this difficult, sad time. 💜🙏💜

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**Sara Fender** - July 25, 2020 at 01:47 PM

DD

Thank you so much for posting your kind words and memories. Frank was such a big personality that he leaves an unfathomable void that nothing will probably ever fill. Time, love, memories and prayers will get us through.

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**Diane Dever** - August 07, 2020 at 01:05 PM

GB

“ Diane, Steve & I were sad to hear of Frank's passing. What a difficult time this must be for you. I can't even imagine. I know you take comfort in knowing Frank was welcomed home by the Lord and is worshipping before the throne. But still, your heart must ache. I pray the Lord's love and peace comforts you as well as the strong family and friend support you have. God bless.

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**Georgia Bruton** - July 24, 2020 at 04:54 PM

DD

*Thank you Georgia and Steve. Your words are a comfort to me during this difficult time. Your prayers are felt.*

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**Diane Dever** - August 07, 2020 at 01:01 PM

RM

“*Dear Diane, I didn't know Frank all that well but the few times I met him he was always smiling and so friendly. I know you and your family will miss him but he will always be in your heart. Love you*

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**Rae McCranie** - July 24, 2020 at 04:01 PM

DD

*Thank you so much Rae. I know your heart is with me as you are familiar with this path. i wish it weren't so and your encouragement is so much appreciated.*

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**Diane Dever** - August 07, 2020 at 01:02 PM