



## Barbara Ann (Francke) Sorenson

November 24, 1953 - September 16, 2025

Barbara Ann (Francke) Sorenson passed away on September 16, 2025 at the age of 71. She was born in Leavenworth, KS to Roy and Marguerite (Williams) Francke on November 24, 1953. After spending several years in the Midwest, the Francke family moved to the Northwest, eventually settling in Lewiston, ID where Barb was a member of Lewiston High School's graduating class of 1972. She worked at several water treatment facilities before moving to Seattle, WA in 1977, spending seven years as a manager at the Seattle Water Treatment Plant, and where her daughter Amanda was born in 1983.

However, the call for more education finally drove Barbara back home to Lewiston, ID, where she received a Bachelor of Arts degree in English Literature at Lewis-Clark State College (LCSC), with honors, in 1988, and where she met the love of her life, Wayne Curtis Sorenson. They married in 1987 and, after graduating, moved to Moscow, ID, to pursue graduate degrees, where Barb began her teaching career at the University of Idaho and at LCSC.

In 1995, Barb and Wayne relocated to Leavenworth, Washington, and opened the Bavarian Meadows Bed and Breakfast. In later years, the couple moved to South Korea, where Barb taught English to kindergarten students, a surprising transition from adult education and one she came to cherish. Her beloved husband Wayne passed away in 2011, and Barb then settled in Wenatchee,

WA.

With her love of music and her beautiful voice, Barb sang with Leavenworth Village Voices for almost 20 years, and her love of cooking and baking ensured that everyone around her was rewarded with eating her beautifully decorated cakes and her repertoire of American and Asian cuisines. Barbara leaves behind her daughter Amanda (Dan) Rohrbach, her two beautiful grandchildren, Ada (10) and Reid (5), of Duvall, WA, and many relatives and friends who will miss her laughter and her spirit.

Friends and family are invited to a memorial service in Barbara's honor at Host Wenatchee 10 S Columbia Street, Wenatchee, WA, on Friday, September 26th at 11 AM.

Arrangements assisted by Jones & Jones Betts Funeral Home, Wenatchee.

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

SEP **26.** 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM (PT)

Host Wenatchee  
10 S Columbia Street  
Wenatchee, WA 98801

# Tribute Wall



“ Jones & Jones - Betts Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Barbara Ann (Francke) Sorenson



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**Jones & Jones~Betts Funeral Home** - September 25, 2025 at 02:17 PM

MA

“ I grew up in California with no extended family. Just Dad and Mom and my 2 siblings. Then Barbara came to California for a visit when we your young adults. She ended up living here with me and my 2 toddlers, Jeremy and Jamey (I was a single mom).

We had such wonderful times together. She loved my boys as her own and really became a co-parent. The boys even called her the well deserve title of Mommy.

Eventually Barbara felt called back to her roots. I seriously considered leaving California with her, but my roots kept me here. We were so Blessed to have that time together and I cherish those memories.

Thank you, little sister, cousin, co-mommy for Your Love and Generosity. You made a difference in our lives.

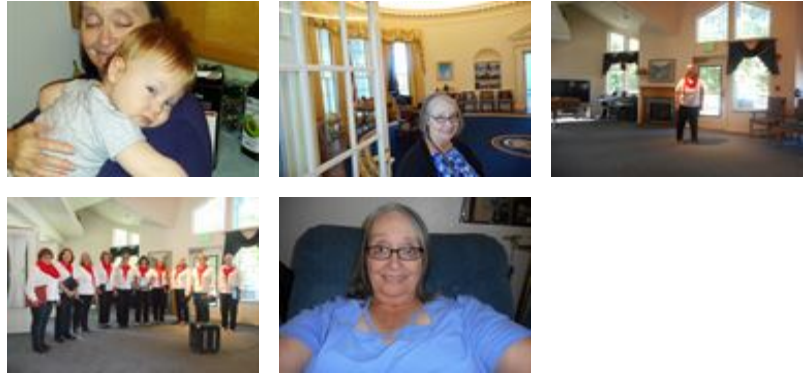
Your Grateful Cousin Marrisona

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**Marrisona Abbot** - September 25, 2025 at 07:24 PM



“ 70 files added to the album Life Tributes



Jones & Jones~Betts Funeral Home - September 24, 2025 at 02:59 PM



“ Diane Haven purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Barbara Ann (Francke) Sorenson.



Diane Haven - September 24, 2025 at 09:14 AM



“ Diane Haven planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Barbara Ann (Francke) Sorenson.

Diane Haven - September 24, 2025 at 09:14 AM

NH

“ *The first time I saw Barbara I was about 16. Marguerite and Roy (my half brother) stopped at our home in Indiana on their trip home to Idaho. She was just a tiny baby. That was the last time I saw her. Over the years I wondered where she was, figured some place in Washington state. Had a couple of nibbles over the years of her being there but nothing concrete. Fast forward several years and I was contacted by someone on Ancestry that had been contacted by Barbara. That was the turning point. We were able to connect and we have been in touch ever since. It was great being able to share memories and hoped to be able to visit at some point. At least that had been our hopes. I will certainly miss Barbara but she will always be in my heart.*

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**Norma (Franke) Hughes** - September 18, 2025 at 07:56 PM