

## WARM (cont from page 3)

Then, on our final morning in Roseburg, through sheer happenstance, Erin and I had the distinct pleasure of transporting Bob Ferreira to the Eugene, OR Airport on our way back to Bellingham. I had been a night club entertainer in the Puget Sound area of Washington State for several decades, so Bob and I were able to talk “shop” a bit. We discussed performance formats, tunes, pace, embarrassing moments, and the need for “moonlighting” in order to make ends meet. Erin would chime in at times with some personal perspectives and a bit of accounting advice.

After arriving at the airport, Bob thanked us profusely for the lift. I said “Hey Bob, it has been a real honor for us to be able to do this for you!” to which he warmly replied “Awww, come on, Mark. I’m just a regular guy.” (Yeah, RIGHT!)

Finally this year, after the Friday night Four Freshmen performance at the Fort Wayne 75th Anniversary event, Ryan approached me to ask if I would take a photo of him, Jake, and Curtis (Calderon) who had flown up from San Antonio to cover for an “ailing” Tommy for a Purdue University dedication that morning. (Clearly, Ryan had a great deal of respect for Curtis!) After the camera “click” I told Ryan that I wasn’t sure how to get the photo to him. He said “Just text it to me. Here’s my number.” Again, I was witnessing trust, camaraderie, and warmth from a member of Group #27!

The group’s relationship with their fans, as evidenced here, is clearly an extension of the warm relationship they have with each other. It displays itself beautifully in the way they present themselves to their audiences; teasing one another, laughing, joking, and doing so all while sharing their amazing Four Freshmen Musical Legacy with the world!

Our accessibility to the members of Group #27 has been just as glorious as the feeling of holding an old vinyl recording in our hands— tangible, connected, and warm—and that feeling will long be cherished!

Please stay as warm as you are, gentlemen! You’re onto something!



**Mark and Bob at the Eugene airport.**

# Memories of Suzanne Dumaw

by Evelyn Searl

Suzanne and I have known one another since 1957 as sorority sisters at Michigan State University. We kept in touch throughout the years via Christmas cards, but it wasn’t until the late ‘90s that we started socializing. She was a passionate devotee of The Four Freshmen and got me hooked on joining the Four Freshmen Society in 1999. We either flew or road tripped to the conventions from Oregon to Maryland, Florida, Virginia, Pennsylvania and many other places. Often times another sorority sister, Betty Dorman, joined us. The last road trip that the three of us enjoyed traveling together was to Louisville, KY in 2016 – and it was a little scary as we drove through a tornado on our way back to Michigan. We also took a 2,000 mile road trip throughout the Upper Peninsula, a small ship cruise down the intracoastal waterway to Charleston, a trip to Key West and many visits between our homes.



Suzanne loved to perform and always sang at the Four Freshmen convention JAM Sessions. Her last was in 2016. She also sang at a local Hillsdale, MI restaurant.

When vacationing in Sarasota and Siesta Key she would have several singing engagements and I often acted as her agent! During the summer she hired musicians to back her up and gave backyard concerts off her deck, one of which was recorded. It was always so much fun.

Suzanne was passionate about many things. She was passionate about MSU basketball, feeding birds and deer, keeping her home up to date and looking after others. She would often take in several folks in need after some disaster in their lives; and even after the devastating death of her daughter, Lisa, to ovarian cancer.

After 2016, Suzanne’s health declined causing her travel to be limited mostly to doctor’s visits. She is now on her last journey.

Fly high our little song bird. The guys are waiting for you. It will be...



FOOT NOTE: Suzanne passed away unexpectedly in her home shortly before the Four Freshmen Society 2023 convention – of which she so badly wanted to be able to attend.