

Julius Flack Diebenow
“Jules”

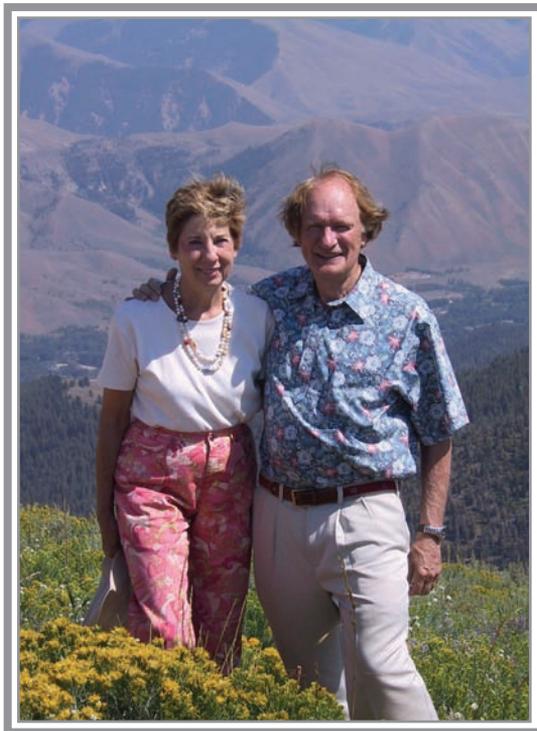
August 31, 1929 – March 4, 2013

Celebrating a Life Full of Adventure

**Saturday, April 13, 2013
Open House 2:00 - 5:00 pm**

25211 Miles Avenue
Lake Forest, CA 92630
949-830-8295

*Please let us know if you can join us –
jwdiebenow@gmail.com*



*When I fall in love it will be forever...
When I give my heart it will be completely...
And the moment I can feel that you feel that way too
Is when I fall in love with you*

In Loving Memory of Grandad

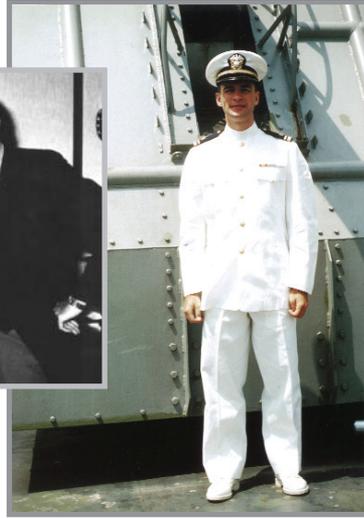
We love our grandparents. With the passing of Grandad we are reminded of our blessings – the vibrant living legacy of virtue, guidance and warm embrace that extends into eternity.

Grandma tells us that Grandad was born on August 29, 1929 in Portland, Oregon to Julius and Helen Diebenow. Although he was an only child, his family's numerous driving trips to visit family in Idaho and Wisconsin developed within him strong bonds and a tie to his family name leading back to a German heritage. Jules grew up in Bremerton, Washington, where he attended Naval Avenue Elementary School and Bremerton High School, graduating in 1947 as vice president of his senior class. Over the years, he and Grandma traveled to Bremerton for many reunions to celebrate the longevity of wonderful friendships.

Grandad attended Olympic College before earning a BA in Business Administration at the University of Washington in 1952 with a major in accounting. He was a member of Delta Tau Delta Fraternity. To fulfill his NROTC commitment Jules entered the US Navy at the close of the Korean War and served as a lieutenant and supply officer aboard a destroyer in Operation Big Switch and at the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard. His experiences in the Pacific and Indian Oceans, and soon afterwards crossing the Atlantic to independently explore many of the European countries by auto, sparked a passion. A fascination toward foreign destinations and educational travel would overcome interest in his trained profession as a CPA after he entered the workforce.

We understand that it was in sunny Los Angeles, much sunnier than the Pacific Northwest, that Grandad met his future bride Janet Townsend on a blind date. Guess Grandad was not so blind after all! They enjoyed a fun courtship and cultivated an active social circle of other young couples. They eloped to be married in Las Vegas in 1962. Their children Bill and Julie would arrive in 1966 and 1969 respectively.

Remember we mentioned that “travel bug.” Well Grandad took a leap of faith back in 1959, foregoing the accounting field to develop international travel opportunities for affinity and educational organizations. With a thorough knowledge of world geography – which by the way he skillfully used to his advantage in many a family board game – and an unbelievable memory for things cultural and historical, Jules excelled in the planning and execution of group tours. In 1967 he established his own business TravelTime and opened an office in Laguna Hills, California, catering to the new, master-planned retirement communities of Leisure World and Rossmoor. Grandad and Grandma were hard at work, building the family business that took on the names LifeLong Learning and World Explorer Cruises (an educational cruiseline for an adult audience that paralleled the activities of Semester at Sea for the college crowd). Partnering with ship owners from Hong Kong, Singapore, Turkey, Greece, Yugoslavia, Russia and Germany lit up the Telex machine. Not sure what that is or was!



Children Bill and Julie made out well, with summertime choreographed on a world stage. Family travels aboard planes, trains, automobiles plus cruises traversed the planet. It was often said that on these family voyages Grandad left not a stone unturned!

Over the years the well-regarded Diebenow travel business sustained the challenges of regional disruptions like Chernobyl, rivers flowing too high to allow riverboat passage beneath the bridges or border crossings that required extreme diplomatic effort. All the while Grandad brought a spirit of insatiable interest for rare travel experiences as his personal tally far exceeded 200 countries visited and the count of remaining places narrowed. He enjoyed the camaraderie of colleagues in the Travelers' Century Club, an organization representing world travelers who have visited 100 or more of the world's countries and territories, for which he was president in 1995-96. In 2003, Jules and son Bill sold the family company and an era was completed.

While Grandad and Grandma continued some business activities in travel during this past decade, they also enjoyed the pleasure of personal journeys that met their interests. Family gatherings, time spent with Julie and visits from Bill's family (daughter-in-law Naomi and we grandchildren) kept them busy. And to add icing to the cake, the family celebrated with Grandad and Grandma their 50-year anniversary in 2012, on the islands of Maui and Kauai. With Grandad leading us up Mt. Haleakala. A special occasion this past summer to rejoice and cherish a lifetime of memories.

We miss you and love you Grandad. We feel your thoughtful presence and know you will always be with us.

We have been born into a new life which has an inheritance that can't be destroyed or corrupted and can't fade away. That inheritance is kept in heaven for you. 1 Peter 1:4

Love,
Christian, Sarina and Michella