



## Francoise Hack

May 5, 1970 - July 11, 2016

On the 5th of May 1970 flags were waving across the Netherlands. It was to celebrate Liberation Day, marking the country's freedom from occupation during World War II.

For Lia and Frank Lof the meaning of those waving flags was different. On that day a beautiful daughter was born. They called her Françoise, a French name.

She grew up with love; on September 14, 1972 her sister Ilona was born.

Elementary school, high school, college, life was promising and joyful.

After high school she wanted to learn more about the French language and lived for a year in St. Raphaël in the South of France. She worked as an au pair for a doctor's family and cared for two boys: François and Vincent. As a young girl of 18 she spoke fluent French and learned about life.

Coming back to Holland she chooses to study art history at the University of Groningen. This is where she met Menno, studying physical therapy in the same town. They fell in love and decided to build a life together. On the 28th of September 1995 they married in the magnificent town hall of Menno's hometown, Bolsward. That beautiful promise was made, not knowing how soon it would become a reality:

I take you to be my wedded husband/wife, to have and to hold, from this day forward, for better for worse, for richer for poor, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, till death do us part...

After their wedding they moved to Sarasota, Florida. Menno began work at the

hospital in Venice, and Françoise became a volunteer in the John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art. With her knowledge of art she soon found a job at the museum, where her final position was Assistant Director of Collections. She travelled a lot, accompanying paintings all over the world.

On February 22, 2005 a miracle happened: Lukas was born. On November 23, 2009 another miracle came: Benjamin.

They became American citizens and had a good life together, until October 2013. Françoise was diagnosed with severe breast cancer. She tried every treatment offered by medical science, the only thing she wanted was a good life with her three men. But their time together was too short: she died on July 11, 2016.

That day American flags were waving again, now at half-mast, for the shooting of innocent people. To us they were in mourning for Françoise. Memorial services will be held Thursday July 21, 10.00am at St Marks Episcopal Church located at 508 Riviera street on the island of Venice, Florida.

# Previous Events

## Service

JUL **21**. 10:00 AM (ET)

St Mark's Episcopal Church  
508 Riviera St  
Venice, FL 34285-2826  
(941) 488-7714

# Tribute Wall



“ *Françoise Hack*

October 09, 2023 at 02:01 AM



“ *Françoise Hack*

January 28, 2023 at 12:09 PM



“ *Han&Wil purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Françoise Hack.*



Han&Wil - July 19, 2016 at 11:17 AM



“ *A dear friend for over 20 years. A gentle and compassionate person. A loving mother. That's how I'll remember Françoise. Now she is the most dazzling star in the sky for Lukas en Ben. You will be missed Frans! May you have Peace for ever! Condolences, love and strength for Menno, Lukas and Benjamin; for Lia and Frank; for Ilona and family in Holland.*

Joan de Vries - July 19, 2016 at 10:03 AM

BN

“ I worked with Francoise many years ago at the Ringling Museum. I always remember her being happy and kind. My condolences to her family.

*Beth Nusman*

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**Beth Nusman** - July 18, 2016 at 07:48 AM

LI

“ *Blooming this night*

*For her...*



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**lia** - July 16, 2016 at 09:03 AM

KS

“ *Francie was a kind and gentle spirit. She will be missed by all who knew her. My sincere condolences to her family.*

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**Karen Sornberger** - July 15, 2016 at 07:01 PM

DK

“ *I am blessed to have shared a few moments in life with her, it seems that all I really knew of her was all everyone already knows...she was beautiful!*

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**Douglas Kingsley** - July 15, 2016 at 02:31 PM

AS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Ank en Jan Smit** - July 15, 2016 at 08:11 AM

AS

*Warme herinneringen aan Françoise. Burenkerstdiner 1988.*

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**Ank en Jan Smit** - July 15, 2016 at 08:14 AM

JR

“ *Françoise was a lovely, kind person and a wonderful mother! My deepest sympathies to her entire family.*

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**Jeri Rosenthal** - July 15, 2016 at 08:09 AM

DW

“ *You left a lots of happy memories behind and there will help all of us sending hugs and prayers to the family*

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**Dagmar winney** - July 15, 2016 at 07:03 AM

MD

“ *Forever in our hearts❤️ we will never forget you Frans ❤️❤️❤️*

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**Moniek van drie** - July 15, 2016 at 05:21 AM

MS

“ *God Bless your beautiful soul Francoise.*



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**Mark Sebzda** - July 15, 2016 at 04:11 AM

LW

“ *Liliane Wigman sent a virtual gift in memory of Francoise Hack*



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**Liliane Wigman** - July 15, 2016 at 04:02 AM

LW

*"je weet pas wat je mist, als het er niet meer is. Maar wat geweest is, is nog niet voorbij. Want ieder die ik liefhad woont voorgoed in mij" Veel sterkte Menno, kinderen, Lia, Frank, Ilona en gezin en iedereen die haar lief had!*

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**Liliane Wigman** - July 15, 2016 at 04:08 AM

CV

“ *Veel sterkte en kracht voor allemaal.*

*Chantal van vliet*

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**Chantal van vliet** - July 15, 2016 at 03:18 AM



“ *Ilona Lof purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Francoise Hack.*



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**Ilona Lof** - July 15, 2016 at 03:10 AM



“ *Distance doesn't matter...  
You were always there too look after me, just like big sisters do  
I shall miss you so much, but the memories of you will stay in my  
heart.*

*They make me proud and they will light up my world.....*

*I send all my love to Menno, Lukas, Benjamin and mama & papa en  
wens jullie veel kracht en liefde toe om het verlies van Francoise  
een plekje te kunnen geven.*

*Liefs Ploon*



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**Ilona Lof** - July 15, 2016 at 03:06 AM

LW

*Sterkte Ilona wat moet dit moeilijk zijn als je zover weg bent van  
diegene waar je zoveel van houdt. Ik wens jullie allemaal ontzettend  
veel kracht bij dit grote verlies.*

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**Liliane Wigman** - July 15, 2016 at 04:11 AM

JP

*Beautiful words Ilona. I am so sorry for your loss, your sister was a wonderful person in every way and a very good friend.*

jen posey - July 15, 2016 at 05:57 PM

IL

*Thank you*

ilona lof - July 16, 2016 at 09:54 AM

AN

*Geschokt door dit bericht. Ik ben samen met Françoise au pair geweest bij dezelfde familie in St Raphael. ik heb haar daarna in Groningen opgezocht. We waren op zoek naar de familie om te vragen hoe het met hun is. Ik heb de moeder gevonden en zocht contact met haar maar kreeg geen antwoord. Vreselijk bericht. Het was altijd gezellig met haar. Heel veel sterkte voor haar familie en kindere. Mvg Annemiek*

Annemiek - February 23, 2021 at 01:35 PM



“ *Ilona Lof lit a candle in memory of Françoise Hack*



Ilona Lof - July 15, 2016 at 02:13 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Françoise Hack.*



July 14, 2016 at 04:30 PM

CB

“ *Francoise was one of the most competent arts professionals with whom I've ever had the pleasure to work over many, many years. She was always generous in offering her assistance and insights and was so very gracious on oh so many occasions. What a beautiful tribute to her! I loved reading about her early years and her love for the three special men in her life. I pray you will be able to carry on as she would want and make her eternally proud!!! With loving thoughts and prayers to comfort all of you in the Hack-Lof families and friends. She will be greatly missed, and fondly remembered always!*

*Carol Graham Beck, Curator, Florida Governor's Mansion*

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**Carol Beck** - July 14, 2016 at 10:53 AM

TA

“ *What I remember about Francoise is her soft, gentle voice and I remember her intelligence. She could speak multiple languages.*

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**Tayler** - July 13, 2016 at 07:02 PM