

FRAN WILLIAMS DUNLAP  
(10/17/1944 – 5/28/2015)



Seattle artist Fran Williams Dunlap passed into eternal light May 28, 2015. She leaves behind her husband, John H. Dunlap, and their children, Lucinda M. Dunlap and Benjamin S. Dunlap, of Seattle, WA, and her sister, Ellen B. Williams of Lancaster, PA.

Frances Lolita Williams was born October 17, 1944 in Princeton, NJ. She was born into the Quaker community, a birth-right baby in the Society of Friends. All her life, Fran shared the Friends' concerns for peace, social justice, and brotherhood.

Fran was raised in Lancaster, PA, a culturally diverse, small historic city and farming community. She was the daughter of the late Dorothea Sener Wieand Williams and Dr. Henry Taylor Noyes Williams, a medical doctor and homeopath, whose practice took him daily among Old Order Amish and Mennonite communities.

Fran was educated in Lancaster schools, Kimberton Farm School, in Phoenixville, PA, where her mother was a teacher, and High Mowing School, in Wilton, NH, where her mother taught spinning and weaving and her father taught life sciences. In 1967, Fran was awarded a B.A. in art and biology at Westminster College in New Wilmington, PA. Later Fran attended Emerson College in East Sussex, England for two years, where she trained in education and art.



Combining her interests in biology and art, Fran worked for several years as a technical draftsman at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute on Cape Cod. There Fran met her husband, electrical engineer John H. Dunlap. In the early years of their marriage, they lived in Hatchville, MA. In 1979, they moved to Seattle, WA, where John continued engineering for oceanographic research at the University of Washington.

Fran's children, Lucinda, born in 1978, and Benjamin, born in 1980, were the light of her life. She was a loving and attentive mother. Fran and John enrolled them in Seattle Waldorf School. Fran worked at Seattle Waldorf School one year as a teaching assistant. She threw herself into a multitude of activities in support of the school and its extended community, and later served as Trustee.

Every summer, Fran took her family east for long vacations with family and friends in Lancaster, PA and Sorrento, ME, where she was a beloved member of both communities. Fran loved gardening, rowing, sailing, and swimming.

For the last decade, Fran taught watercolor painting at the Kokoro Kai Adult Day Program, a program serving the Nikkei community in Seattle, WA. Previously, Fran was Art Director for eight years at Elderwise in Seattle, WA, where she taught watercolor painting and pottery.

Fran provided cheerful kindness and hope to the memory impaired. Memory was unnecessary, she said, as the subject matter always lay before them for reference. Her students' paintings were worthy and wonderful, colorful, glowing compositions.

Fran Dunlap was a very active member of the Seattle League of Arts. Her paintings were always prominent and among the best sellers at the twice yearly at the Seattle League of Arts Show & Sale at Seattle Center and Alki. She served most recently as membership chairman of the organization.



Fran was a gifted musician as well as an artist. She was an accomplished classical pianist, but the raucous folk accordion sparked her greatest joy. Her children sang and performed as well. Their home was always full of artwork, music, and singing.

Fran loved people and travel. While at Emerson College, she traveled to Egypt, France and throughout Europe. Fran took a long trip to Alaska with her husband in Summer 2013. She accompanied her family and friends on a memorable tour of Turkey in Fall 2014, where she celebrated her 70<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Fran's final days were filled with visits from appreciative friends. Her final moments were filled with the sound of her children playing guitar and singing. Precisely at the end of "Wagon Wheel," Fran's spirit took flight into the Seattle sunset.

"Kindred, kind spirit and friend to so many: At last you've left and gone to the Invisible; How marvelous the way you quit this world. You ruffled your feathers and, breaking free of your cage, you took to the air, bound for the soul's world. A love-sick nightingale among the owls, you caught the scent of roses and flew to the Rose Garden." (Rumi)

A memorial service will be held for Fran Williams Dunlap later this year. Her business, Gallimaufry Design, lives on at [www.frاندunlap.com](http://www.frاندunlap.com).

