

Alma Mater.....Nourishing Mother....Salve Regina College Class of 1968

A floodgate of memories could fill pages. For the sake of brevity, a few are set down here.

A farm girl from Branford, CT arrived at the then all women's college SRC to study nursing. My high school guidance counselor wisely advised that a BS degree in nursing was the wave of the future rather than where I was originally headed, to a three year hospital based nursing school.

So, sight unseen, I arrived at Salve in the Fall of 1964 via the scary one lane in each direction Jamestown Bridge, and a ferry crossing of Narragansett Bay.....to the jaw-dropping doors of Ochre Court. Very soon, I found out that this building would be my home for the next semester until Miley Hall would be completed.

Many of my memories of college days could certainly be shared with current students. However, for sure, the memory of living on the third floor of Ochre Court ended with those few of us from the class of '68.

We were seven to a room, (very large rooms) arranged in alphabetical order, with students of various majors. Living with multiple people was not a new experience for me, having shared a bedroom with my sisters, so I accommodated easily. What a magical setting...gazing out the windows to the Cliff Walk and ocean beyond, curling up in a nook in the hall studying or reading a book, contemplating the wood carving and gold leaf, walking down the Grand Staircase of our home for our first dance. Then the fun of life in the dorm....learning to put on make up correctly, trying out hairdos, falling asleep to the strains of my roommates' Johnny Mathis record..."Chances Are"....."When I Fall in Love".....

.....and piercing ears! The Method.....two ice cubes on each side of ear lobe; hold till no feeling!!.....clean ear lobe with alcohol; eyeball the perfect spot in the center of the earlobe; (hope your subject doesn't have a really thick earlobe); pierce ear with wide bore needle that has been cleaned with alcohol; place studs in ear that have been soaking in alcohol (a little Vaseline on the studs helps it slide); repeat process to the other ear...hoping that the holes will be symmetrical; provide post surgical instructions for cleaning and turning the stud. PS....we had a zero infection rate!

This was just the beginning of four wonderful years!!

Salve Regina College, all women's college in 1968, now co-ed Salve Regina University, Alma Mater, nourishing mother, has enriched my life with.....

Life Long Friendships!!

A stimulating career in Nursing of twenty rewarding years

A knowledge of nutrition and healthy lifestyle to pass on to my husband, children, grandchildren

A love of learning leading to a master's degree in Speech and Language Pathology, followed by a second career working with preschool and elementary school students.

A love of learning that continued on to yet more study in the field of Massage Therapy..... what has become an avocation for me and a return to what I most loved about my career in nursing, hands-on nurturing of body, mind, spirit.

Deirdre Field Braun  
Class of 1968