

From: Lori Gladstone
Subject: John Kranz
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John Robert Kranz, Jr. was born on May 27, 1940, to Eleanor Hine Kranz and John Robert Kranz in New York City.

He attended Glen Rock, New Jersey public schools until high school when he boarded at Salisbury Preparatory in Salisbury, Connecticut.

After three years at Wesleyan College (where his father went to school), he decided to enlist in the US Navy. After four years of military service, he returned to Wesleyan to finish its program in Fine Arts.

In 1966 John enrolled in the Yale School of Architecture. John and I met in New Haven in 1966 and married on June 18, 1967 in Summit, New Jersey.

When John had his Yale admissions interview, he recalled being praised for being a "tabula rasa." Dogma did not seem to have a place at Yale.

John enjoyed collaborative Yale projects. From building barns to counting cars in Las Vegas parking lot, John felt surrounded by enthusiastic comrades.

My father made the down payment of our 76 East Pearl Street house in Fair Haven. I continued to work to meet monthly mortgage payments and Yale and Antioch students joined us in the camaraderie in our home. John spent days and nights on end designing and building the house.

Pebble Michelle Kranz was born on April 19, 1969, at Yale-New Haven Hospital.

John became president of the Children's Preschool on Whitney Avenue where Pebble was a participant.

Major construction projects John supervised were:

Naugatuck, Connecticut's Sewage Treatment Plant (W.J. Megin)

University of North Carolina's Chapel Hill Faculty/Laboratory/

Office building (Pebble Building Company)

Fairfax, Virginia Mobil Oil headquarters (Gilbane Construction)

Milwaukee, Wisconsin's Grand Avenue (The Rouse Company)

New York's South Street Seaport (The Rouse Company)

Sunrise, Florida's Sawgrass Mills (The Mills Corporation)

We were fortunate to have explored arcades around the world. Most of these adventures were subsidized. After an Australian and Southeast Asia trip, John was invited to build a Tiananmen Square retail center.

At age 56 John died on November 6, 1996, in our Baltimore home. We had been married for 29 years at the time of his death.