

EVITA ALLEN '65

Sharing her love of Linden Hall and pride in her alma mater

How did Linden Hall affect your life after graduation?

With pride! Throughout one's life we get asked, "And where did you go to school?" I always was able to say honestly, with a pride-filled smile, "I went to this wonderful boarding school in a lovely area of Pennsylvania! Its name is Linden Hall." Sure, I went on to college and had a good college experience, but to that lifelong asked question, I always answer with Linden Hall first.

What inspires your continued giving to Linden Hall?

Hey, I'm getting up there in years! I've seen my dear school in many different stages! At one point I thought it would shut its doors! I was scared! I started to support fundraising with what I could afford. As time went on and my husband and I could afford more - especially when Headmaster Vince Stumpo came to us with a well thought out new building plan - Jay and I both knew the school desperately needed to stay current scholastically and provide a safe environment, which is what parents of future students wanted. Throughout my husband and my 49 years of marriage, he has learned to respect and care for the school as much as I do. We both wholeheartedly share the importance of a good education in order to prosper in this world!

What piece of advice would you share with girls at Linden Hall today?

Work hard! Get into a great college! That education stays with you and sets you apart! No one can take that away from you! But also take advantage of all the extracurricular activities that Linden Hall offers. Those times become wonderful memories that stay with you forever! I have many fun stories that I still share with my family and my longtime Linden Hall friends. Yes, even after more than 50 years you will still hold those LH friends close to your heart so be kind to your fellow classmates.

What did you love most about Linden Hall?

I went to Linden Hall at a tough time in my life. My mother had just passed away and I needed a warm, caring environment. Linden Hall welcomed me with open arms and provided that for me. From day one, I felt I belonged, and I have to thank the wonderful faculty and administration for that! I always felt that I could easily talk to each and every one of them. But, they also reached out on their own which is a gift few schools can claim.

Describe your experience at Linden Hall. What is your favorite memory?



I have many great memories, but I am not going to put all of them in print. I was a passionate equestrian! I brought two of my horses with me to Linden Hall. I was captain of the Vanguarders (don't think they have that competitive riding team anymore), but we would train and practice then travel to different shows. I loved everything about the riding program! I also loved the art program, sculpting was my prime love. I remember making a sculpture of a woman and giving it to one of my favorite teachers, Miss Patricia Sullivan. I was overcome with emotion when I visited her a good 25 years later in her home and she still had it on display on a shelf in her living room. So very touched! She is an amazing woman! So love her!

How many years did you attend Linden Hall?

Just two years, but those two years were filled with wonderful memories and provided me with a great education and confidence to enter the next stage of life.

What clubs or sports were you a member of?

Athletics were my thing! As I mentioned, riding was my passion but I was also captain of the field hockey team and a member of the swim team. Looking back, I think the Sunday morning delicious Sticky Buns were the swimming teams downfall. We bulked up to much to be a fast, winning team!

What Blue and White team were you on? Blue

What college did you attend; and, where?

I went to Centenary in NJ. It was fine, especially since I met my husband at a "mixer "at his college, Lehigh University! But, I do feel I could have reached higher in choosing a college. I would recommend all students to go on to the best, higher education institution that they can!

What is your occupation?

I have had many entrepreneurial type businesses as I was raising my 3 children. I also did a lot of charity work. For many, many years I was chairman of The Levitt Pavilion in Westport CT. It's an open air performing arts pavilion sponsoring over 50 free shows each summer. I currently own and operate a full service hair salon in Las Vegas.

Do you participate in community service? If so, what organizations? Any leadership roles?

As I mentioned above, I did quite a bit of charity work! So much that the town of Westport, CT gave me a plaque and award for my abundant volunteer services and announced they are naming a Day after me: "The Evi Allen Day." That was a very sweet and thoughtful gesture by the First Selectman. I highly recommend all to give of their time to volunteerism. It's so needed in many aspects of life and in ones own community.

JUST FOR FUN

What is your favorite book?

All cookbooks! I read them like novels! I love to cook (and eat!) I've attended two cooking classes in Italy and one in Spain.

What is your favorite movie or TV show?

Homeland! And also love The Voice!

3 things you couldn't live without?

LOVE!! The love for family, the love for friends, the love for one's passions, the love of life!! And recently, the love for my grandchildren!



Class notes and Alumnae Updates

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