

From Angela,

As I was thinking about Ken and Friends, my heart warmed as I remembered how it all came together.

One morning Ken came down and couldn't wait to tell me about a dream he had. He has been thinking about the lava lamp idea that his friend Brent Blake had proposed to generate tourist business in Soap Lake. He was very excited as he shared his vision of a big screen at the Lava Lamp to play local advertising. Then his creative mind kicked in and he started to figure out how he could make it work. After a lot of research on the computer he found a number in California where they had done some of what he envisioned and called them. He got off the phone, again very excited, and ideas were flowing all over the place.



Later that evening we were invited to a friend's surprise birthday and when we got there, Brent was there. Of course, Ken couldn't wait to bend his ear about his new idea and how it could help Brent's vision. After some discussion Brent told him he had talked to architects Andy and Nell about a similar idea and that Ken should get together with them.

Ken and I were in the middle of opening his play in Soap Lake at Masquers theatre. I was doing the set and one evening I receive a note from the receptionist. It was from a local man who offered roses for each performance. The play was called *Roses Can't See* and the man had a rose garden. I was over the moon with the idea, so we set up an appointment and met with John and Robert who own Westmont Park Rose Garden. We quickly discovered this was not just any rose garden. It was like being transported into a totally different world.

Ken was still very excited about the lava lamp idea and suggested we all meet with Andy and Nell. At that meeting the excitement grew and the next thing we know we were planning a gala event to raise money for the lava lamp idea. We put that together in three weeks and launched Friends of the Lower Grand Coulee to raise money for the lava lamp idea. The rest is history, but the little story goes to show that the Universe works in mysterious ways. A vision, a dream, a surprise party, a meeting, a plan a rose garden and a group of like-minded people. It was magical to me and to this day I smile whenever I think about what happened from there. We ended up with dear friends, many wonderful hours, and annual galas.

A lot of serendipity has happened on that path which could not have happened from thought alone. All of the people were in the right place at the right time and created many interesting meetings with many interesting people. Ken is gone but I know he will be watching us as we proceed and lending whatever support he can.

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