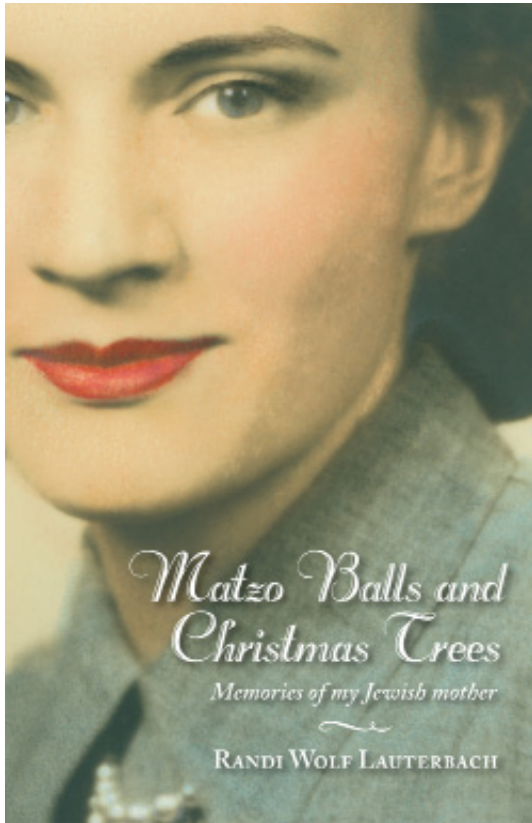


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Matzo Balls and Christmas Trees

By Randi Wolf Lauterbach

The holidays bring a special ache to those who have lost a loved one in December. The winter of 1974 rendered Randi Wolf Lauterbach a twenty-two-year-old orphan and changed her world forever. Thirty-seven years later, with the anniversaries of her parents' deaths approaching, Randi's mind was immersed in thoughts of her mother—thoughts clambering to be recorded. A first-generation Jewish-American, Margaret Wolf possessed a sharp wit, a penchant for music and gambling, and a strong foothold in her cross-cultural community of family, friends, and neighbors. When she passed suddenly, the woman who had seemed larger than life became but a memory cradled in the hearts of those who knew her. But, oh, what memories she left!

Framed with humor, nostalgia, and warmth, *Matzo Balls and Christmas Trees* paints a timeless portrait of familial love—a love that transcends life and death and is renewed with each passing season.

ISBN: 978-1-9399301-7-0
Price \$14.95
104 pages
Distributor; Ingram, Belle Isle Books.
Releasing December 2013

*"There are still tears, but chuckles and smiles prevail.
I miss her on Sundays. I miss her when I make chicken soup.
I miss her always."*

~ R. W. L.



About the Author

Randi Wolf Lauterbach is a native of Richmond, Virginia. She received her bachelor's in education from Virginia Tech and went on to be a sixth-grade teacher, a realtor, and a computer systems trainer, working in the information technology field for thirty years. She currently lives in Glen Allen, Virginia, with her husband, Spencer, and their dog, Jake.

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Belle Isle Books, an imprint of Brandylane Publishers, Inc.
5 South First Street, Richmond, VA 23219