

(I'm writing this from <sup>my notes</sup> memory because I didn't have time on the cruise, each day)

June 17, 1994

I'm 65 today and I got a wonderful gift today.

Linda was taking me to dinner today but the big surprise came when I got a birthday phone call from everyone. It was a conference call. Then

Linda presented me with a printed announcement that Bobby decided to tell me I'm going with him on Richard Simmons - "Cruise to Lose" on October 22, 1994 to

October 29, 1994. I found out later that Kenny put up the money and maybe everyone would pay him back. (I don't think that happened)

I was so excited, having Bobby with me gave me the courage. I think Bobby paid for himself.

Cruise to lose Day !!

Saturday October 22, 1994

I took access to the airport, and dropped my luggage off at U.S. Air. I went to the departure area to wait for Bobby who was coming down from California and we would go to Miami together. Bobby was waiting for me to come in by access, he was in a little room near the front, thought he would meet me & we would go down together thru the airport & wait for our plane. But he never met me, the little room didn't have a loud speaker which would have told him I was searching for him. He asked whether my luggage arrived but not knowing everything was in

his name, it looked like I  
never arrived, so he  
called Linda and she was  
baffled. He was hysterical  
but finally he worked  
everything out and I  
announced again that  
I was waiting at departure  
Poor boy, we had 5 mins  
to spare and my poor Bobby  
was rushing thru the airport  
and finally MEETING me  
I was so sad, I thought  
he was going to have a  
heart attack, Sweat pouring  
off of him, I wanted to cry!  
We got him a cold drink  
on the plane and he finally  
settled down, I was  
so worried about his health.  
We finally arrived in Miami  
where we boarded the  
Celebration about 3:30 PM  
We sailed about 4:00 PM  
Had Dinner at 6 PM  
Welcome aboard at about 7<sup>45</sup> PM

The room was OK. Both  
beds shook like crazy,  
never stopped. Bob was  
able to sleep but I was  
up all nite. I got sea  
sick but I bought patches  
and after a few days I  
felt better. I will never  
go on a ship again, it  
frightened me to be out in  
that big ocean.

Bobby had a wonderful  
time!!! Went to all the  
exercises with Richard.  
I watched from the  
audience area, along ~~the~~ <sup>with</sup>  
many more. Bobby was  
up on stage dancing every  
day - twice a day. He lost  
6 pounds and I was very  
proud of him. Every nite  
the beds shook! I never  
slept! Many evenings when  
Bobby wasn't with me, I shopped  
for gifts for the entire family, cost  
me a fortune!

\* Sunday - October 23, 1994

I guess you realize we were now at sea. Richard never stops, he has energy galore and my dear Bobby kept up with him, of course. We had breakfast every day - the food was delicious, the waiters were excellent. We had the same 7 people at our table, thru all meals. They were great! We became good friends, I still correspond some what with one couple. She got this trip free for her and her husband. Their names are Rhea and Jim Frick and they have 3 or 4 children they're from Oregon and she teaches her children at home. We became good friends. Her daughter (about 11) wrote a

or was it Regie Philbin

letter to the Maury Pouch show-  
around Mother's Day 1994

how she wanted her mother  
to go on "Cruise to Love" because  
she never went anywhere  
and deserved this gift.

She won over thousands of  
letters. Rhea came to New York  
with her sister as sort of  
a gift, because she had  
an extra seat. Rhea had no  
idea what was to come.

She was stunned when they  
called her up to receive her  
gift of the cruise and clothes.  
Her daughter was back stage  
and came out with flowers and  
she was crying with joy.

I have a tape of this because  
they repeated this show and  
I was home at that time to  
tape it. I couldn't believe  
we were lucky to be at her  
table, Richard came around  
to meet, now and then

\* Monday, October 24, 1994

Breakfast, then Bobby exercised, Dinner was at 5 PM and then about 6 PM we arrived in San Juan Puerto Rico. A bunch of us got into a big Van, sharing the cost and toured the island. We ended up in a little Shopping District and bought some momentos. It was so humid there. We went back to the ship.

\* Tuesday - October 25, 1994

We had breakfast and about 8 AM we landed in St. Thomas. Bob went to the island, I didn't go, too humid for me. I stayed on board, read some magazines, slept a while. Bob came back for lunch. He bought me a hand painted canvas bag saying "Ruth's big adventure with a ship on it. Use it often when I go up to the Mall."

The ship sails from St Thomas about 5:30 PM and then Dinner. A few of the dinners had the waiters dressed in costumes, they were excellent! We had the same waiters every day. They answered to our every command. Their tips came out of the initial cost of our trip.

\* Wednesday - ~~Friday~~ <sup>October</sup> 6, 1994

Ship arrives in St. Maarten 7 AM. We have breakfast and a bunch of us go on a Van to explore the Island. Nothing much to see. We wanted to eat lunch, so the driver took us somewhere which cost a fortune. So the girls said - "no way" the driver

became a little upset, so he decided to give us a little "flavor" as he said, and he took us to a "nude beach". Thank god where we ate, didn't have any "bottom-less" guys but a few "topless" women. The food was very good, nothing like Richard would like us to eat - ribs, weiners, steaks, french fries, etc. Cooked over an open flame over coals, like you see in the movies on islands. Delicious! Then we went to an open area, near water where shirts & momentos were sold. Tables with blowing awnings made out of cloth, just like in the movies. I taught jerseys for the kids and had a good time. They were all run by families. Went back to the ship, which then sailed - Dinner later.

\* Thursday - October 27, 1994  
Breakfast - Exercises for  
Bob - Lunch - Dinner

\* Friday - October 28, 1994  
Breakfast - Exercise -  
Lunch - Dinner  
Farewell show  
Bob was one of the  
people chosen to perform  
Wonderful as usual.

\* Saturday - October 29, 1994  
Boat docks in Miami,  
luggage had to be claimed  
Bobby had that ordeal to do.  
Very hot & humid  
Cab took ~~us~~ us to airport  
Boarded and went back to  
Pittsburgh. Bob went back to  
California in November

All in all, it was an experience  
to remember!! Thank you!