



Deborah A. "Debbie" Bova

DEC 10, 1954 - JUL 2, 2013



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Deborah A. "Debbie" Bova

DEC 10, 1954 - JUL 2, 2013

Deborah A. "Debbie" Bova, 58, of Syracuse, passed away Tuesday at St. Joseph's Hospital after a long, courageous battle with cancer. She was born in Syracuse, the daughter of Louis and Marie Bova. Debbie received her Associates Degree from Onondaga Community College, graduated from Regional Police Academy and attended Syracuse University. She was the Project REACH Coordinator with Onondaga County, Director of the Ida Benderson Senior Center in the City of Syracuse and Community Service Officer for the Syracuse Police Department. Debbie received numerous awards for work in the community, including Building Bridges Award from AARP, the Excellence Award from the Attorney General's Office and the Civilian Commendation Award from the SPD. She also belonged to many organizations including Friends of Schiller Park, Butternut Street Police Community Center Board of Directors, former Chairperson of the Syracuse Women's Commission, Columbus Day Parade Committee, Committee Chair of the Herman Edge Tournament of Hope and Executive Board Neighborhood Watch Groups of Syracuse.

She was predeceased by her father, Louis Bova. Debbie is survived by her son, Brett Forkhamer and his father, Alfred Forkhamer; her mother, Marie Bova; her aunt, Josephine Zingaro, her uncle, Vincent (Marion) Bova along with many cousins, Sandra (Kenneth) Phy, Frederick (Cathie) Costello, Barbara (Lawrence) Alampi, Carol (Thomas) Phillips, Ralph (Laurel) Bova, Antoinette Bova, Patty Bova, Philip (Chris) Bova., Patty Ventra, Barbara Landi and Phyllis Spies.

Funeral services will be held on Saturday at 9:00 am in the THOMAS J. PIRRO JR. FUNERAL HOME and 10:00 am in Our Lady of Pompei/St. Peter Church, where a funeral mass will be celebrated. Entombment will follow in Woodlawn Cemetery Mausoleum. Family and friends may call at the THOMAS J. PIRRO JR. FUNERAL HOME, 3401 Vickery Rd. (corner of Buckley Rd.) North Syracuse on Friday from 3:00 to 7:00 pm.



Obituary

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Donations may be made to Our Lady of Pompei/St. Peter Church Building Fund, 301 Ash Street, Syracuse, NY 13208 or Friends of Schiller Park, 305 Sedgwick Drive, Syracuse, NY 13203.



Events


Deborah A. "Debbie" Bova

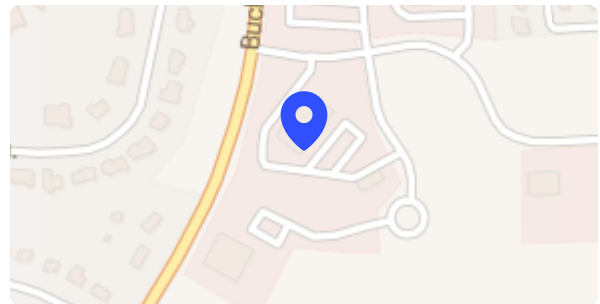
DEC 10, 1954 - JUL 2, 2013

Visitation

 **Friday**, July 5, 2013


 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM ET


 **Thomas J. Pirro Jr. Funeral Home**
3401 Vickery Rd, Syracuse NY 13212

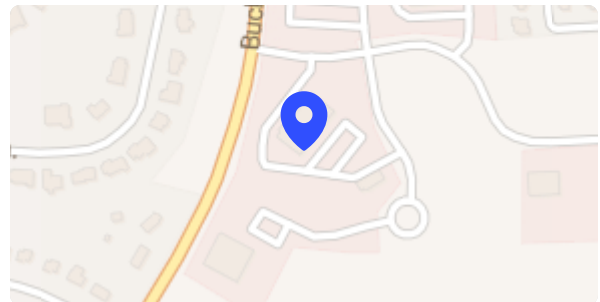


Service

 **Saturday**, July 6, 2013


 9:00 AM ET


 **Thomas J. Pirro Jr. Funeral Home**
3401 Vickery Rd, Syracuse NY 13212

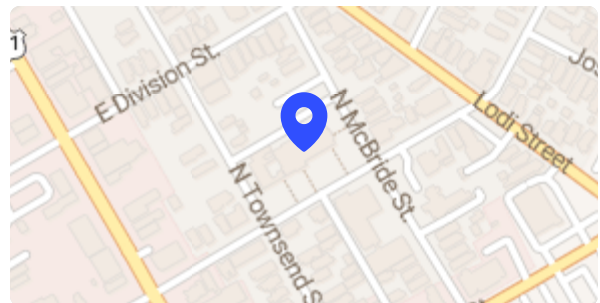


Funeral Mass

 **Saturday**, July 6, 2013

 10:00 AM ET

 **Our Lady of Pompei - St. Peter Church**
301 Ash St., Syracuse NY 13208





Tribute Wall

Deborah A. "Debbie" Bova

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Thomas J. Pirro Jr. Funeral Home shared a **Tribute Video**.



July 1 at 8:00 PM



Sue Spencer posted:

the last time I talked to her she was great. so shocked to this day. she was such a good friend. alls we did was laugh` and make you carry the groceries in

July 4 at 8:37 AM



Jennifer Weil posted:

This is much to late... Brett and Marie, I was thinking of Debbie and wondering how she was doing in her fight against cancer. I am so sorry to hear of her passing this past summer. She was a great lady!May her memory be a blessing to both of you!

December 16 at 8:47 AM



Toni S. posted:

I am shocked by Debbie's passing...I saw her a few weeks ago and she looked great. She was a good friend to me years ago...we had lost touch over time. May God bless your family and may they be comforted by hope in the Resurrection which the Lord has promised us. Adieu, friend...R.I.P.

July 10 at 5:31 AM



Wendy posted:

Dear Marie and Brett,My heart breaks for you both. Debbie was such a life force! She was the most dynamic woman I ever had the pleasure of spending time with. She was Meryl's first caregiver and I know she loved her as if she was her own.May God Bless you and keep you safe in his hands...I know that Debbie is with him...probably organizing a gathering of family and friends that were there before her.Wendy Means

July 9 at 12:46 PM



Tribute Wall

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VB

Valerie Byrd posted:

Debbie and I met along time ago. Once you met Debbie, you never forgot her. She never met a stranger and had fun with whatever she chose to do. She could light up any room. I lived on Durston Ave not far from her family home. Whenever she would see my mom or brother, she would always ask about me. Even after all these years, she never forgot me. God bless you Debbie. Joe just called me today with the news. May your family realize just how special you are to all. My heart aches, but there is a smile on my face because of all your smiles. Valerie Carello Byrd

July 8 at 8:38 AM

JM

Judy Meredith posted:

It's with a heavy and sad heart that I write this in memory of dear sweet Deb. We spent many happy times together at Grimes and our paths crossed a few times afterwards and my memories are of nothing but goodness, kindness and an amazing spirit that Deb had and her ability to "just get it done"...Her smile would light up the room and we are all losing one great lady. With deepest sympathy. Judy Cartini Meredith - Greenland, NH

July 6 at 1:13 PM

SZ

Stephen Zumchak posted:

Debbie was of instrumental help back at Salem Hyde and helped restart the 6th Grade Musical while I taught there. Prayers and thoughts to the family.-Steve Zumchak

July 5 at 11:07 PM

PN

Patricia Nappi lit a candle in honor of Deborah.

Dear MARIE AND BRET T MY HEART IS BROKEN FOR BOTH OF YOU"S DEBBIE WAS A WONDERFUL PERSON AND I KNOW SHE IS A WONDERFUL ANGEL NOW IN HEAVEN,I AM SO SORRY I COULD NOT BE T HEIR IN PERSON I WAS UNABLE TO MAKE IT BRET T YOUR MOM WAS SO PROUD OF YOU SHE LOVED YOU DEARLY GOD BLESS YOU BOTH STAY STRONG YOUR MOT HER- DAUGHT ER WILL GUIDE YOU ALWAYS A LONG TIME FRIEND OF DEBBIE . PAT RICIA NAPPI



July 5 at 8:32 PM



Tribute Wall

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Jean Curinga posted:

Dear Marie and Brett, We were so sorry to learn that Debbie had passed away. We will remember Debbie with fond memories of Senior Day Camp trips, laughter and fun. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Jeanne, Peter and Teresa Curinga

July 5 at 5:05 PM



Cathy Meixner posted:

Brett, Mrs. Bova and Family: Debbie was a bright light when she worked at the CNY Chapter of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation! As a volunteer parent, I so enjoyed meeting her and being on committees that included her! She was definitely committed to raising awareness and money for CFF! We were all very lucky to have known her! Our family is so sorry for your loss. Love and prayers to all of you, Cathy Meixner & Family, Jordan, NY

July 5 at 12:08 PM



Debbie posted:

Dear Brett and Mrs. Bova, I am so sorry to learn of Debbie's passing and that I am unable to be with you. She was a wonderful, kind and generous person. My thoughts and prayers are with you. Debbie Di Fino Clayton, NY

July 5 at 12:07 PM



Tom White lit a candle in honor of Deborah.

To Brett Forkhamer, Marie Bova and all friends and family members -On behalf of the City of Syracuse's Dept. of Parks, Recreation and Youth Programs senior participants and staff at the Bob Cecile Community Center, Magnarelli Community Center at McChesney Park, the Westside Senior Center, and the many former Ida Benderson Senior Center participants now attending programs at the Salvation Army, South Warren St. facility please accept our heartfelt condolences on the loss of your mother, daughter, our fellow worker and friend. Deb was a true sparkplug and knew how to handle the variety of needs her senior clientele required and was always available to give a warm hug, smile, or helping hand to those who were in need. Her vibrant presence and personality will long be remembered by those who knew her. We were fortunate to have known and worked with her for many years and will have many memories to cherish and share during these trying days. May she rest in eternal peace and happiness! Tom White Magnarelli Community Center Director/Coordinator of Senior Programs and Services City of Syracuse Dept. of Parks, Recreation and Youth Programs



July 3 at 8:46 AM



Tribute Wall

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Tony Tolbert lit a candle in honor of Deborah.



July 5 at 7:33 AM



Ro Bartolo posted:

To Debbie's Family Debbie was one of the most generous, sweet, kind and nicest people I have ever met. She was so wonderful when I had question regarding my Mom. May she Rest in Peace, Sincerely, Ro Bartolo

July 5 at 6:19 AM



Jo-Anne White posted:

To Debbie's Family, I had the honor of being a fellow board member with Debbie for the Neighborhood Watch Groups of Syracuse. She was a dynamo. I also was invited by her to volunteer to help on Thanksgiving at Ida Benderson's downtown. I had a wonderful time. Debbie was such a humanitarian. I will miss her. God Bless her son, family and friends. Sincerely, Jo-Anne White/Syracuse

July 4 at 4:44 PM



Robwells/Lasvegas lit a candle in honor of Deborah.

To Marie & Family, My heartfelt condolences go out to all of you during this tough time. Deb and I go way back to our days with the city. We had a lot of laughs during some elections too. May you Rest In Peace Debbie and god Bless You Too. I'm sure Dad welcomed you to Heaven and has you in his arms.



July 4 at 11:20 AM



Hillary Hunter posted:

We extend heart-felt sympathy to Debbie's family. She is a wonderful and kind spirit and we are privileged to have met her. Sincerely, Hillary Hunter & Kay Hilsberg

July 4 at 10:54 AM



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JG

John Giroux posted:

I will always remember Debbie for her disposition; even on a hectic, stressful day she was always friendly to me. Rest in peace.

July 4 at 10:45 AM

SS

Sharon Sherman posted:

Debbie was a loving, caring person with a wonderful disposition. She touched the lives of so many seniors. She will be missed

July 4 at 6:48 AM

DS

Donna Setrella lit a candle in honor of Deborah.

I didn't know Debbie very well, but over the years spent many an hour or so in a meeting regarding those in need of some kind of community service. A beautiful woman who cared from the heart and soul about all. Her awards speak of how she treated those less fortunate. Healing energies to all of you as you continue on your grief journey's. Debbie flies high amongst the entire Angelic Realm now watching over her family, friends and still those less fortunate. PEACE. Respectfully, Donna



July 4 at 6:11 AM

SR

Sgt. David Fix (Ret.) posted:

To the Family and Friends of Debbie; Debbie was around us at the PSB she was almost like a fellow officer. I remember her at the golf tournaments (in her costume) and never heard a word from her about how hot and stuffy it was. She was a fantastic lady and will be missed by all. My sincere condolences. Dave (The Net) Fix

July 4 at 6:05 AM

TG

Tom And Julie Gallup posted:

Debbie was an amazing woman always watching over the people she cared about always doing something to help the next person I have know Debbie for a lot of years it seem like yesterday we met at the little village of minoa PD . Debbie you will be missed RIP my good friend

July 4 at 6:00 AM



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TG

Tom And Julie Gallup lit a candle in honor of Deborah.



July 4 at 5:54 AM

BA

Beverly Armani July 5 at 10:29 AM

I worked with Debbie's mom, Marie at Webster Elementary for many years.....I was deeply saddened to hear of Debbie's passing.....she always greeted me with a huge smile and hug....sending blessings and comfort to her family and friends....

MG

Michelle Guilfoil posted:

Brett & Mrs Bova, Sending our love, thoughts and prayers to you both! There are not enough words to express my family's sadness when hearing of Debbie's passing. She had a spirit and heart bigger than life. She took care of my son's from the time they were babies through school, loved them as if they were her own. We were so blessed to have her in our lives. So many memories of Debbie we will cherish always! God bless you all and may you rest in peace my dear friend Debbie. Mike, Michelle, Michael & Marc Guilfoil

July 4 at 3:00 AM

LA

Lisa Amidon posted:

So very sorry to hear of Debbie's passing. She was a sweet caring person with a wonderful heart. My thoughts and prayers are with you all. I know she is watching over all her family and friends from above. Rest in peace Debbie, you touched so many lives and you will be missed more than you know. Lisa Amidon

July 4 at 2:53 AM

CG

Cathy Garrity posted:

So sorry to hear this very sad news of Debbie's passing. You are all in my prayers.

July 4 at 12:04 AM



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KN

Kelly Needham posted:

Brett and Marie I am so sorry to hear of Debbie's passing. She was such a comfort to me recently when my mom passed and I'm glad I was able to visit with her a few months back and catch up. She was a very special person and will be missed! Fondly, Kelly Needham

July 3 at 7:08 PM

JE

James Ennis posted:

To the Family and Friends of Debbie: I join in extending sincere heartfelt sympathy to you and your family during this most difficult time. May happier memories help to sustain you and bring you comfort through this period of sorrow. She touched many lives, in a very positive way. May she rest in peace.

July 3 at 6:58 PM

KT

Kathleen Dobrovolsky Thompson lit a candle in honor of Deborah.

So sorry to hear of Deb's passing; we went to high school together & I use to see her downtown where we both worked. Such a loss and way too soon. May she rest in peace and I will keep Deb & all her family in my prayers.



July 3 at 6:46 PM

MG

Mary Owens Graves posted:

Went to school with Debbie from K-12 and stayed in touch for awhile after high school, but then we lost contact. She was always so sweet and so funny. I am deeply saddened to hear of her death. My prayers and thoughts are with her mother Marie, her son who I never had the pleasure of meeting, and all of her family and friends. She is reunited with her loving daddy once again. God Bless You Everyone, Mary (Owens) Graves Kernersville, NC

July 3 at 6:28 PM

PD

Patrick Driscoll posted:

Debbie always knew how to take care of senior citizens. She had a special mother/daughter relationship I ever saw. She was a great person and knew how to bring joy into everyone she met and knew. Her legacy will continue to live on.

July 3 at 6:05 PM



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MB

Marietta Blasi posted:

Our sincere sympathy to all of Debbie's family. She was a joy to know -- a lovely, giving person. Rest in peace, Debbie, you will be missed. John and Marietta Blasi

July 3 at 5:56 PM

RS

Rebecca Snyder posted:

I will miss an old friend, such a good person. Rebecca

July 3 at 3:44 PM

JO

Joanne posted:

Our deepest condolences to Brett, Marie & the rest of Deborah's family. Deb was a wonderful lady who would do anything for anyone. Even when she was ill she would ALWAYS give of herself. I know she will be missed by many & I know we sure will miss seeing her in the neighborhood as she was a friend and neighbor to us. We lost a beautiful person, but Heaven gained an angel. All our love & prayers, Joanne & Denny

July 3 at 3:43 PM

CL

Cindy Landry lit a candle in honor of Deborah.



July 3 at 2:54 PM

KG

Kathy Gilbert lit a candle in honor of Deborah.



July 3 at 2:42 PM

KG

Kathy Gilbert posted:

Brett and Marie, I'm very sorry for your loss, Debbie was an amazing person, always thinking of others.. I will keep you in my thoughts and prayers..

July 3 at 2:41 PM



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BF

Brenda Forkhamer lit a candle in honor of Deborah.

Brett & Marie ~ My heartfelt sympathy extends to the both of you, hold the memories close to your hearts & may they comfort you today & all of the tomorrows. Deb was an exceptional MOM & DAUGHTER!! She had a heart of gold & always there to help others. I have many good memories & can hear her little giggle & that smile, Rest in Peace " Buffy" !!!

July 3 at 2:16 PM



CT

Cathy Tredo lit a candle in honor of Deborah.

July 3 at 1:35 PM



CM

Carolyn A Lorelli-Maier posted:

Debbie was a very good friend of mine. We talked on the phone a lot lately. I am so happy that we talked. I live in Arizona. I will always remember the good times we had. Love and Prayers to you. Your friend Carolyn.

July 3 at 1:33 PM

SF

Sarah Falgiatano lit a candle in honor of Deborah.

July 3 at 12:52 PM



SF

Sarah Falgiatano posted:

Deb has been part of my life for 33 years. She leaves behind a great legacy. I will miss her dynamic personality and her kind heart. There is nothing but peace for her now no more pain no more fear. Brett and Marie my thoughts and prayers are with you. Suzie Reid

July 3 at 12:51 PM



Tribute Wall

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John Sposato posted:

She shall be missed. Thought of her earlier before I heard. May she rest in peace.

July 3 at 12:28 PM



Melanie Tymofy sent a virtual gift in honor of Deborah.



July 3 at 8:46 AM



Melanie Tymofy July 3 at 9:17 AM

May your soul be with the angels in heaven - now at peace without pain or worry. You were one of the kindest, loving, caring human beings that I've ever know.



Media

Deborah A. "Debbie" Bova

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Thomas J. Pirro Jr. Funeral Home shared a Tribute Video.

July 1 at 8:00 PM





Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Deborah by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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