



Deborah M. Amata

July 24, 1950 - April 2, 2025

With heavy hearts, we announce the passing of Deborah “Debbie” Marie Amata, a beloved mother, daughter, nana, sister, aunt and friend. Debbie was born in Cleveland, Ohio on July 24, 1950 to Mario and Wilma Amata and passed away on April 2, 2025 after a lengthy and courageous battle with cancer.

Debbie is reunited in heaven with her husband, Kerry Gump, parents, Mario and Wilma, and beloved dogs, Coco and Bosco.

Debbie was the devoted mother to her daughters, Denise (Dan) Witherspoon and Dianne Mennemeyer, sister to Denise Amato and Dianne (Bill) Bartlett, Nana to Jesse and Taylor Witherspoon and Gianna Mennemeyer-Upchurch, aunt to Debbie (Matthew) Schrader, Erin Browning and Bryan Browning; and great-aunt to Nolan, Bennett, Alex, Eli, and Eden. Debbie was also the cherished companion of her beloved dog, Elliot.

For more than 26 years, Debbie was the proud business owner of Bianca’s Ristorante Italiano in Brunswick, Ohio. Anyone who entered her restaurant was treated as a friend. Debbie always sought out ways to use her restaurant’s resources to support her community. She regularly donated food to local student sport team events and Fox Tale Sanctuary.

Debbie's love of her family was visible in everything she did. When not at her restaurant, Debbie's focus was on her family and friends. She loved attending her grandson Jesse's plays, granddaughter Taylor's marching band events and granddaughter Gianna's gymnastics meets, and spending time with her daughters, grandchildren, sisters, nieces, nephew, extended family and friends.

Debbie was a shining light in the lives of all who had the privilege of knowing her. Her journey on this earth was one marked by love, generosity, humor and passion. She had a gift for making others smile and laugh, leaving a lasting impact on all who crossed her path. Her passing has left a void in the hearts of her family, friends, and many more whose lives were touched by her. We ask that you remember her for the profound impact she had on the lives of those who had the pleasure of knowing her.

To honor Debbie's life, a mass will be held on April 26, 2025, at 9:00 AM at St. Ambrose Church at 929 Pearl Road, Brunswick, Ohio. A Celebration of Life will be held from 1:00 PM to 8:00 PM at Bianca's Ristorante Italiano at 4284 Beverly Hills Dr, Brunswick, Ohio.

Anyone that knew Debbie knew of her passion for animals. She often said she loved animals more than people! "The purity of a person's heart can be quickly measured by how they regard animals." (Anonymous).

In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests donations be made in Debbie's memory to these animal rescue organizations that were very special to Debbie: Fox Tale Sanctuary (https://www.powr.io/checkout_screen?unique_label=52be40e2_1673448318) and Rescued Rascals (<https://rescuedrascalsil.org/donate-now-2/>).

Previous Events

Service

APR **26.** 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM (ET)

St. Ambrose Church
929 Pearl Road
Brunswick, OH 44212

Celebration of Life Service

APR **26.** 1:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Bianca's Ristorante Italiano
4284 Beverly Hills Drive
Brunswick, OH 44212

Tribute Wall

TF

“ *The Broadwater Family purchased the Beautiful i
n Blue for the family of Deborah M. Amata.*



The Broadwater Family - April 25, 2025 at 10:05 PM

MJ

“ *Melissa and Paul Jowett purchased the Small Ga
rden Dish for the family of Deborah M. Amata.*



Melissa and Paul Jowett - April 24, 2025 at 06:35 PM

RF

“ *Rob and Chris Albert and family purchased the Si
mply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of
Deborah M. Amata.*



Rob and Chris Albert and family - April 23, 2025 at 09:34 PM

TF

“ *The Fusco Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Deborah M.
Amata.*

The Fusco Family - April 22, 2025 at 12:15 PM

TF

“ *The Fusco Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Deborah M. Amata.*



The Fusco Family - April 22, 2025 at 12:15 PM

PJ

“ *Pamela, Calista and Jose planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Deborah M. Amata.*

Pamela, Calista and Jose - April 12, 2025 at 12:21 AM

PJ

“ *Pamela, Calista and Jose purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Deborah M. Amata.*



Pamela, Calista and Jose - April 12, 2025 at 12:21 AM

CR

“ *I loved Debbie. She was such a a big part of my younger years. She gave me my first job as a dishwasher at Biancas. Debbie loved me like her own son. She looked out for me and was always there for me. She was always so incredibly good to me I can't list it all. She was the best!!!! Prayers, hugs and love to Denise and Dianne. I will always you two! God bless!*

Chris Russo - April 09, 2025 at 09:58 PM

SC

“ Sending love and prayers to Debbie's family and friends at this time of great loss. We are so very sorry.

Christopher and Sylvia Christian



Sylvia Christian - April 07, 2025 at 03:43 PM

JY

“ Always enjoyed talking and visiting with Debbie at Bianca's. The best Italian restaurant in town
Our deepest condolences to all of her family. Sincerely. John and Jeanette Yaronczyk

John Yaronczyk - April 07, 2025 at 01:13 PM

BP

Debbie and I have worked together for many years at Bianca's. she was my best best friend. She took me under her wing and guide me through hard times. We both wiped each other's tears off our faces when we had sad days. I cherish your friendship so much. Everybody loved you. Your girls stand by me too you were a wonderful person in and out. You cared about everybody and you were there for everybody. I will always love you and remember our times together. You let me live with you when I needed a place to go I thank you so much. I love you all my heart , my best friend in the world. Love Barbara.

Barbara mills perillo - April 19, 2025 at 05:52 PM

GB

“ I remember your mom at Bianca's, even before my husband, John, passed. She made the restaurant comfortable and very friendly to all who entered. Then later I would come for dinners with the others who enjoyed the atmosphere and Karaoke with DJ Bob Bruno. My last visit, I believe, was with 2 other Hospice volunteers and 3 family members several (plus) months ago. Over the years, I was treated to many of Debbie's epicurean delights with wine. Her menu was all delicious. I am so glad I was privileged to meet her. May she now rest in peace knowing she made a positive difference in many people's lives.

Gerrie Berena - April 07, 2025 at 01:02 PM

SS

“ Diane and Family, My sincerest condolences on your loss.



Sue Stainbrook - April 07, 2025 at 12:44 PM