



Sandra Mae (Cybroski) Billowitz DeGroat

February 6, 1949 - November 28, 2023

Wantage -It is with great sorrow and bittersweet gratitude for our family to announce the passing of a Sandra Mae (Cybroski) Billowitz-DeGroat on Tuesday, November 28, 2023. She passed away peacefully after a brave and arduous battle with cancer.

Sandie was born on February 6, 1949 to doting parents, Jule and Stanley Cybroski in Newark, New Jersey. Her childhood was an idyllic time in her life, which she recalled fondly. When she was nine years old, the family welcomed her sister, Sharon to the family. Sandie loved fiercely.

In 1978, she married William Billowitz and went on to have a daughter named Melissa, whom she treasured every year of her life, creating beautiful memories and offering unconditional love —Sandie was a nurturer.

Sandie was a talented artist. She sold her custom wood work to people across the state. Her crafts included wooden figurines for all holidays and indoor and outdoor country décor. Most notably, fellow Sussex County residents are apt to recognize her Santa Cows or wooden reindeer or farmer silhouettes that can still be seen on the front lawns of neighbors. Her grandson, Patrick has taken after her artistic talents and proudly displays them in his room.

At Bernhard's Red Mill, Sandie was a popular fixture, serving up food and

drinks to local customers for years. She's still friends with some of them.

Sandie was an entrepreneur. In 1999, Sandie opened up her own hot dog stand, Hillbilly Hotdogs. Since then she could be recognized by travelers either on the side of Route 23 across from the municipal building or the American Legion, or at Tractor Supply on Route 23 as a friendly face to share a laugh with.

Following decades of kinship, Sandie married her most dedicated friend, partner and companion, Roger DeGroat. Known and beloved by many, Sandie and Roger hosted the annual Plumsock Farm Consignment Auction for many years, enjoyed by thousands. A landmark to most Sussex County residents, her home was welcome to anyone who needed a friend or hoot, and the inside was completely decorated and renovated with care by her own two talented hands. Sandie welcomed all.

Sandie was a storyteller, but most of all she would listen. She could recount distant memories with such detail that the listener felt like they were there. She had a cackle that could make anyone smile along with her. She provided love, comfort, hospitality, humor and stability to many.

Sandie was caretaker. Having ushered loved ones as they passed, it is with great dignity and peace that she tackled her own passing, with her daughter by her side.

Through her illness, while difficult, she remained brave and positive until the end, always trying to make people laugh. As usual, Sandie wouldn't imagine having anyone make a fuss over her—so she requested no service, celebration of life or time to honor her. She wanted us all to rest, knowing she is no longer in pain.

Sandie leaves behind her adoring daughter, Melissa (Billowitz) Kennedy; her most life changing partner, Roger DeGroat; sister, Sharon Rodriguez; and nieces, Melanie Gonzalez and Noelle Rodriguez. Her memory lives on with her cherished grandchildren, William, Patrick and Luke Kennedy; son-in-law, Derek Kennedy; step-children, Chantz DeGroat and Sarah Cino; step-grandchildren, Chantz and Gage DeGroat; nieces; and countless friends and acquaintances.


Since Sandie decided against having services, she would appreciate your consideration in making a donation in her memory to the American Legion Post 213 in Sussex, where she was an active member of their Auxiliary. The address for the Legion is P.O. Box 447, Sussex, New Jersey 07461.

Online condolences may be offered to the family at www.pinkelfuneralhome.com

Cemetery Details

Private Cremation Services

Tribute Wall



Steve
Ziff

“ Melissa, it is with a heavy heart that I find out about the passing of your mom, please accept my condolences, I knew your mom for many years along with her sister and their mom and dad Jules and Stanley (stitch), your mom was very cheerful and perky, we got along well when she was down here in Florida visiting. Rest in peace old friend Respectfully, Steve Ziff

Steve Ziff - September 20, 2024 at 05:43 PM



CC

“ Please accept my very heartfelt condolences on your Mom’s passing. I am the one who visited her in the hospital on the Monday before she died. Sandie and I met years ago at her Sabrett cart and hit it off right away! She was so funny and sarcastic I couldn’t resist her! We made each other laugh and never BS’d each other. I called her Sandie Sabrett, which she loved and she dubbed me Flossie! Throughout her illness we shared many long phone calls. She always was straight with me about her illness and treatments. I also had cancer, but was lucky. Maybe that made the sharing easy. I will miss her dearly. They say you never die until the last person says your name. So, every time I pass her “spot” I will say it out loud, “Sandie Sabrett you are missed!”

Sincerely, Christine Capozzoli

Christine Capozzoli - December 05, 2023 at 01:41 PM



“ Tammy Hyatt lit a candle in memory of Sandra Mae (Cybroski) Billowitz DeGroat



Tammy Hyatt - December 04, 2023 at 05:34 PM



“ I am so sorry Melissa to hear of the passing of your beautiful mom. Every time I would see her she was always full of life .I know she truly loved you to pieces. You would always be in every conversation The last time I saw her she and Roger came in Hayeks Market ..It was so good to see her. We shared a hug that seem to last forever and a good cry between us both which I will always be grateful for..Rest in peace Sandie.. You were loved by many . 😊❤️ Tammy Hyatt aka (spike)

Tammy Hyatt - December 04, 2023 at 03:31 PM



“ Sandy was a wonderful lady. She was always smiling and down to earth. I will miss her hot dogs but will miss her more. She loved her daughter so much and her son in law and grandchildren. I'm sure she will be missed by many. Fly high Sandy. 🙏❤️

Laurie clark - December 01, 2023 at 05:30 PM



“ Sandy was a wonderful lady - we shared many hot dog stories !! She will be missed !

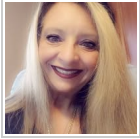
John perdisatt - December 01, 2023 at 03:54 PM

PJ

“ *This was a beautiful tribute. I'm so sorry for your loss, Melissa. Rocco, Talia and I send our love.*

Paula Joana

Paula Joana - December 01, 2023 at 02:33 PM



“ *Our prayers are with Billowitz DeGroat family. Always loved seeing her at Tractor Supply when we went there with my inlaws.*

Joy Titman - December 01, 2023 at 01:14 PM

JM

“ *We met Sandie over twenty years ago, when we were campers at Pleasant Acres Campground. She was working at Bernhard's Red Mill and we would visit her every weekend when we traveled up from Long Island to our favorite place. When she heard us talking about retiring, she said, I have a house I know you will want to buy! And, we did, and loved every minute of our life there. Over the years our Friendship grew and our Families became very close. We will always Cherish our memories of Sandie and her Family and Thank God for placing us together so many years ago. Rest in Peace Old Friend, until we meet again. Audrey and Jerry Magnus*

Jerome (Jerry) Magnus - November 30, 2023 at 10:03 PM