



Amy DeDecker

March 22, 1955 - December 26, 2022

NORWAY- Amy Jo (Lange) DeDecker, age 67 of Norway, passed away peacefully in her sleep on Monday, December 26, 2022 surrounded by her family in the comfort of her home after a courageous multi-year battle with multiple cancers.

She was born on March 22, 1955 in Iron Mountain, to Johanna (later Cuggino) and adopted father Walter Lange.

She grew up in Merriman and attended Kingsford High School as part of the class of 1973. After a short stint in Chicago, Amy returned to Dickinson County where she raised her family and remained a resident for the rest of her years.

Her career was spent doing what she loved- being around people. This included many years as bus driver and classroom aide, mostly at the Dickinson-Iron Intermediate School District. The students she drove and taught brought her great joy.

She also cooked and bartended at several local establishments including Greenleaf's and The Thirsty Whale. While she may not have remembered everyone's name, she most certainly remembered your drink of choice.

Her favorite moments were spending time with her family and friends, whether preparing a giant delicious meal, cherishing an unexpected drop in visit, or taking one of the trips that brought her from coast to coast for her granddaughter's birth in Northern California or her son's mountaintop wedding in New Hampshire.

She also loved her pets, and fancied her dogs the most, breeding German Shepherds for many years and always had at least a couple of four-legged friends keeping her company.

Amy is survived by her loving sons Ryan (Nichole) of Frankestown, NH and Phillip (Jenny) of Hamilton Lakes with granddaughter Rowen and grandson Jack Pine; sister Tina (Rick) Trepanier with nephew Chase (Megan) and brother Clint (Amanda) Lange with niece Haley and a large extended family and many, many friends.

She was preceded in death by both her father and mother.

Diagnosed with Stage IV Metastatic Breast Cancer in the summer of 2017, she lived several wonderful years since then thanks to great care and compassion of the Dickinson County Hospital Oncology and Chemotherapy teams and the Dickinson County Home Health/Hospice team. The addition of a Pancreatic Cancer diagnosis a year ago made her last year more difficult, but she faced it with courage and a determination to live like none other.

Family will greet friends on Saturday, January 7 from 11-1 p.m. at the Ortman Funeral Home, followed by a celebration of life to be announced afterwards.

Family suggest that memorials may be made on her behalf to the Dickinson County Cancer Unit Loan Closet in Kingsford or the Almost Home Animal Shelter in Quinnesec.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 7. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Ortman Funeral Home
618 Norway Street
P.O. Box 155
Norway, MI 49870
(906) 563-5700
ortmanfuneralhome@norwaymi.com
<https://www.ortmanfuneralhome.com/>

Tribute Wall

EZ

“ *Deepest condolences on the loss of Amy. If everyone had a heart as big as hers the world would be a better place.* ”

White Paws German Shepherd Rescue



Ellen Zimmerman - January 11, 2023 at 12:25 PM

BV

“ *BONNIE VANDERLIN lit a candle in memory of Amy DeDecker* ”



BONNIE VANDERLIN - January 07, 2023 at 09:01 AM



“ *Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Amy DeDecker.* ”



January 06, 2023 at 10:03 AM

VS

“ I shared many happy times with Amy working for the ISD. I remember the times we spent at Hamilton Lakes with the students. Her joy of life and love for her students was a great example to me as I continue to show the love and joy of working with special people. Thank you Amy.

Vicki Schuelke - January 05, 2023 at 07:10 PM

DR

“ I enjoyed going to the movies with her after I was blessed with an introduction by her neighbor Betty Viau. Her witty conversations certainly made me smile.

Doni-Mae B. Rauch - January 05, 2023 at 06:26 PM



“ Amy I will forever remember your kindness and friendship. You were always a ray of sunshine and I will forever miss you!



Lana Miller - January 04, 2023 at 11:18 PM

EF

“ She will always be in our hearts and the memories that were made, bringing smiles and tears at the thoughts. A monetary donation will be made in her memory to the Almost Home Animal Shelter in Quinnesec and the Dickinson County Cancer Unit Loan Closet in Kingsford, on behalf of her family: Tina & Scott, Jon & Leah, Spencer, Scott Engelhardt, Adam and Louise (DeDecker) Konkel.

Engelhardt - Konkel Families - January 04, 2023 at 07:58 PM

L(

“ *Lighten Up (ams-OSRAM) purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Amy DeDecker.*



Lighten Up (ams-OSRAM) - January 04, 2023 at 01:06 PM

LP

“ *I worked with Amy at the ISD many years ago and the students absolutely loved her. After I met her 2 German Shepherds, it always amazed me that she could come to work every day without a single dog hair on her! She was an incredibly special lady. Linda Peterson*

Linda Peterson - January 03, 2023 at 08:32 PM

Profile icon

“ *Sweet Sincerity was purchased for the family of Amy DeDecker.*



January 03, 2023 at 02:07 PM

JS

“ *Growing up as a kid in Merriman you knew everybody . Amy was such a wonderful person and riding the bus each day she was a treat . I am so happy I got to know her . JIM STRUTZ*

James Strutz - December 31, 2022 at 11:58 AM

AN

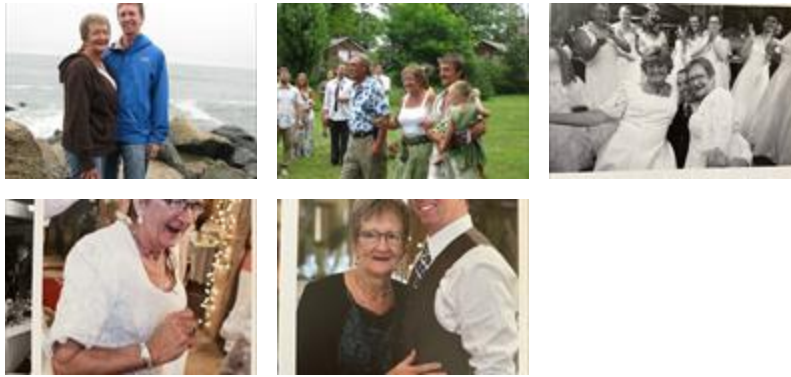
“ Arthur and Janet Naddell purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Amy DeDecker.



Arthur and Janet Naddell - December 29, 2022 at 12:53 PM

RY

“ 7 files added to the album Amy



Ryan - December 29, 2022 at 01:06 AM

BD

“ Ryan, Phillip and family
Our deepest sympathy. Your mom was a wonderful friend & I thought of her often. I regret that I never made it back to visit her after we moved away. She loved you guys so much! You are in our thoughts & prayers.
Hugs...Jim & Bertie Dempsey 💕💕

Bertie Dempsey - December 28, 2022 at 09:40 PM