



Dana Lee DiCocco

November 8, 1954 - March 27, 2025

Dana Lee DiCocco, 70, of Belchertown, MA, passed away peacefully on March 27, 2025, after a long and courageous battle with cancer. Born on November 8, 1954, in Schenectady, NY, Dana lived her life with warmth, humor, and an unwavering love for those around her.

Dana is survived by her beloved wife, Mayra DiCocco; her son, Jose Santa and his wife Monica Santa of Tampa, FL; and her daughter, Janet Griffin and her husband Richard Griffin Jr. of Belchertown, MA. She was a devoted and proud grandmother to Isiah Yoder, Angelo Rentas, Isabella Santa, and Adrianna Johnston. Dana also leaves behind her loving sisters, Donna Bobbit and her husband Greg Bobbit, and Patti DiCocco. She shared a special bond with her nephew Jason Lennox of Minnesota, whom she lovingly referred to as her “son from another mother.” In addition to Jason, Dana is survived by many cherished nieces and nephews, all of whom she held close to her heart. She was predeceased by her parents, Armando DiCocco and Patricia Wade.

Those who knew Dana describe her as having a big heart, a kind soul, and being one of the nicest people they had ever met. She could talk your ear off—but always made for great company. Dana loved deeply and lived generously—often making strangers feel like family and offering the shirt off her back without hesitation.

A woman of tradition, Dana found joy in cooking for her family, always making meals with love. She was especially proud of her food traditions—making homemade marinara sauce and pasteles in bulk was a cherished ritual that brought generations together and filled her home with warmth and flavor. She delighted in crab legs, pasta, and had a sweet tooth she never denied. Her favorite drinks included unsweetened iced tea, hot tea, Coke, and ginger ale, and an occasional bloody Mary; simple pleasures that brought her comfort.

Dana had an unmatched ability to encourage, uplift, and celebrate the people she loved. She was the ultimate hype person—making even the smallest accomplishments feel like world records. Her joy was contagious, and her support was fierce and unwavering.

Holiday decorating was her love language—her home was always festive, warm, and filled with family togetherness. Dana treasured time at the beach, loved listening to music, watching game shows, and lighting candles to bring coziness into any room. She embraced life's simple comforts: lounging in her robe, sporting her favorite flannel shirts, and walking proudly in her everyday rainbow Crocs.

Dana held a bachelor's degree and proudly retired as a regional property manager with WINN Management, where her leadership, integrity, and compassion left a lasting impact.

Even in her final chapter, Dana never stopped smiling. She faced every challenge with grace and grit, living out her favorite motto: "Work hard, play hard."

A memorial in Dana's honor will be held on Friday, April 4, 2025 from 4:00PM to 6:00PM at New England Funeral & Cremation Center, 25 Mill Street, Springfield, MA. Please visit Dana's memorial page at www.nefcc.net for

expressions of sympathy.

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 4. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

New England Funeral & Cremation Center
25 Mill Street
Springfield, MA 01108
(413) 733-1522
info@nefcc.net
<https://www.nefcc.net/>

Tribute Wall

CS

“ I met Dana when she and I were room mates at Baystate. What a remarkable woman who had so much love and life in her heart! I will sadly miss her. My condolences to her family and friends

carokyn Shannon - April 08, 2025 at 08:16 AM

EG

“ Ethel G. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dana Lee DiCocco.

Ethel G. - April 04, 2025 at 01:15 PM

CJ

“ Claire and Jim Jones planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dana Lee DiCocco.

Claire and Jim Jones - April 04, 2025 at 07:55 AM

CJ

“ Claire and Jim Jones purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Dana Lee DiCocco.



Claire and Jim Jones - April 04, 2025 at 07:55 AM

DB

“ Sending our love and prayers wishing we could be close Love your girls in Florida!!! Tampa will always love you forever in our hearts xoxoxoxo



Dannale Boddie - April 03, 2025 at 11:32 PM

DF

“ Denell, Robert & Farina Family purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Dana Lee DiCocco.



Denell, Robert & Farina Family - April 03, 2025 at 09:43 AM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Dana Lee DiCocco.



April 02, 2025 at 07:09 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Dana Lee DiCocco.



April 02, 2025 at 02:11 PM

DA

“ I remember Dana from high school. She was friendly, had a welcoming smile, and was fun to be around. My condolences to her family and friends. May memories of the life you shared with Dana bring you some comfort.

Debbie Askwith - April 02, 2025 at 10:20 AM

JG

“ Nothing can fill this unfathomable void.



Janet Griffin - April 01, 2025 at 07:56 PM

KF

“ Kevin McFarlane and family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Dana Lee DiCocco.



Kevin McFarlane and family - April 01, 2025 at 07:40 PM

DB

“ Donna bobbitt purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of Dana Lee DiCocco.



Donna bobbitt - April 01, 2025 at 06:54 PM

DB

“ Donna bobbitt planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dana Lee DiCocco.

Donna bobbitt - April 01, 2025 at 06:54 PM

LM

“ Meeting Dana for the first time was like she knew me forever. Always there in good or bad with a positive swing on whatever the problem was. She was loving inside and out, and made sure everyone was comfortable. She will be missed very much. My warmest thoughts go to Myra and the family! Wishing you much love and hugs always. Lois.

Lois Miller - April 01, 2025 at 04:13 PM

P.

“ P.K. lit a candle in memory of Dana DiCocco



P.K. - April 01, 2025 at 02:27 PM

JM

“ James McFarlane purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Dana Lee DiCocco.



James McFarlane - April 01, 2025 at 02:14 PM

AJ

“ My condolences to Dana's family. We only met a couple of months ago but she made me feel as if we've always known one another. Continue Resting In Everlasting Peace Dana.



Angela Johnston - April 01, 2025 at 01:56 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Dana Lee DiCocco.

April 01, 2025 at 01:11 PM



“ Treasured Lilies Spray was purchased for the family of Dana Lee DiCocco.



April 01, 2025 at 01:11 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Dana Lee DiCocco.

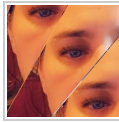
April 01, 2025 at 12:51 PM

AF

“ Dana and I worked together when we were teens selling Mr. Softee ice cream. We made headlines when two sweet tooth bandit robbed us. All through the situation Dana kept calm and her smile helped me overcome my fear. Beautiful soul.

Armando

Armando Feliciano - April 01, 2025 at 12:06 PM



Would love to see the article if you still have it .. she was the sweetest and will forever be missed

Crit King - April 01, 2025 at 04:51 PM

DB

My sister was an amazing woman and the best older sister you could ask for. She was my best friend . I always knew she had my back. My life without her will be difficult I am forever broken hearted. We never said goodbye to each other either on the phone or in person so I will just say later my sister. Miss you and love you forever until I see you again

Donna Bobbitt - April 01, 2025 at 06:33 PM

AJ

“ Avia J. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dana Lee DiCocco.

Avia J. - April 01, 2025 at 11:46 AM

CC

“ Dear Mayra, I am so sorry for your loss.
Chris Carney-Letendre

Christine Carney-Letendre - April 01, 2025 at 10:50 AM