



Diana K. Bangert-Drowns

March 2, 1959 - September 10, 2023

Albany, NY-Diana Bangert-Drowns died on Sunday, September 10, 2023 from complications of a rare blood disorder. Diana was born in Detroit, Michigan to Jerry and Grace Drowns in 1959. She grew up in nearby St. Clair Shores and studied global religions at the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor then law at Wayne State University in Detroit. She married husband Bob Bangert-Drowns in 1983 and enjoyed extraordinarily close and treasured companionship for 40 years.

Diana was renowned for her generosity, curiosity, optimism, intelligence, loyal friendships, unlimited love for family and devotion to her husband and sons, positive work ethic, and an extraordinary array of interests and talents in the arts. She was faithfully devoted to God and the communion of saints as she experienced them in the Catholic tradition.

As a lawyer, Diana began her career working in a Free Legal Aid Clinic associated with Wayne State University, and subsequently worked in law firms in Ann Arbor and Albany, New York. She ultimately practiced independently in Albany specializing in family law. She was an active member of the Women's Bar Association and an advocate of collaborative law practice as an alternative to conventional courtroom conflict.

As a musician, Diana studied classical piano and developed a performance venue—A Tempo—for non-major musicians at the University of Michigan. Her

performance interests expanded to guitar, hammered dulcimer, and voice. She became deeply involved in liturgical and spiritual music in many Catholic venues. Her musical tastes were eclectic, including rock, folk, classical, chant, and jazz, with special affection for Neil Diamond, Andy Williams, Elton John, Chopin, Mompou, Brubeck, and Beethoven.

As an artist, Diana endlessly explored—watercolor, acrylic, collage, origami, oil, clay, gel plate printing, mono printing, jewelry, and clothing design. She produced innumerable art cards and more developed paintings for charitable auctions. She also explored the culinary arts, much to the delight of family and friends.

In short, Diana burst with creative energy and optimism, focusing her efforts in ways to bring aesthetic delight to others around her and offering practical, professional, and spiritual service wherever her talents and interests permitted. She is beloved by so many who have received the benefits of her active care, her empathetic listening, and her artist revelations.

Diana is survived by husband Bob and sons Chris and Mike; by her Aunt Suzie and Uncle Hank and her Uncle Giovanni; by her siblings Tom and wife Rosemary, Anne and husband Dave, Ellen and husband Matt, and Laura and husband Ron; by her siblings-in-law John and wife Jill, Janet and husband Alan, Ellen and her husband Ed, Jean and her husband Rich; and Martin and his wife Erin. She is also survived by numerous nephews, nieces, and cousins, and innumerable friends with whom she shared deep affection. To all she says God bless and keep singing!

Relatives and friends are invited to visit with Diana's family Friday, September 15, 2023 4:00pm to 7:00 pm at St. Vincent De Paul Church, 900 Madison Ave., Albany, NY 12208.

Funeral services Saturday, September 16, 2023 at 10:00 am at St. Vincent De Paul Church, Albany, NY where her Funeral Mass will be celebrated.

The Rite of Committal will be held in St. Agnes Cemetery, Menands, NY immediately following the Mass.

To leave a message for the family please visit www.McveighFuneralHome.com

In lieu of flowers, contributions could be made to the Bangert-Drowns Endowment for Diversity in Teaching & Educational Leadership at the University at Albany. Alternatively, donations could be made to our beloved St. Vincent de Paul Church in Albany, specifying either the Food Pantry (serving Albany's hungry) or the De Marillac Fund (which supported Diana's art retreats for the parish) in your check's memo line.

Cemetery Details

St. Agnes Cemetery

48 Cemetery Ave
Menands, NY

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP **15**. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Church of St. Vincent De Paul Church
900 Madison Ave.
Albany, NY 12208

Service

SEP **16**. 10:00 AM (ET)

Church of St. Vincent De Paul Church
900 Madison Ave.
Albany, NY 12208

Tribute Wall



“ *Diana K. Bangert-Drowns*

October 08, 2023 at 09:24 PM



“ *Diana was a lovely person in every way. I had the pleasure of knowing her through legal cases in which we were involved. She was always a wonderful advocate while maintaining a professional, smart, cooperative, and peasant demeanor. I will miss her smiling face.*

Flo Richardson

Flo Mastro - September 18, 2023 at 10:55 AM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Diana K. Bangert-Drowns.*

September 15, 2023 at 08:21 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Diana K. Bangert-Drowns.*



September 15, 2023 at 08:21 PM

LF

“ I grew up knowing Diana as a friend of her son's Mike and Chris. One of my favorite memories was when Diana drove us to New York City during vacation where I was easily persuaded by a street performer in spending \$20 on his rap mixtape. Diana joined Mike and friends in making fun of my purchase. We tried listening to it on the drive home but only got through a few songs...

I always admired her skills in music in art. She was very kind and supportive of my musical ambitions. I hope that I can follow her model and share the arts with her community in a meaningful way.



Livio Fasullo - September 15, 2023 at 08:04 PM

GR

“ May Diana's presence in God's divine energy bring comfort to all who love and miss her. Such a dear and gifted woman!❤️🙏

Gail Waring RSM - September 15, 2023 at 05:27 PM



“ *Treasured Lilies Spray* was purchased for the family of Diana K. Bangert-Drowns.



September 15, 2023 at 01:39 PM

GK

“ We are very sorry to hear about the passing of Diana. She was an amazing individual who touched the lives of many with her generosity and helpfulness. Losing someone so young is always a profound loss. May her memory continue to be a source of comfort and inspiration for all who knew her. I had sold her home years ago and for the longest time we kept in touch. Our thoughts are with you and your family during this difficult time. If there's anything we can do to assist or support you and your family, please don't hesitate to let us know.

Keeping you in our thoughts,

Gloria Krimmer, Cindy Taylor, & Marc Krimmer

Gloria Krimmer - September 15, 2023 at 12:42 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Diana K. Bangert-Drowns.*



September 14, 2023 at 11:03 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Diana K. Bangert-Drowns.

September 14, 2023 at 11:03 AM

ED

“ When we were kids, Diana would play Elton John’s “Yellow Brick Road” record. We would all dance in the living room. Such fun. I love Elton John, music, piano and dancing to this day. These things bring me joy. Thank you my sister. Love you forever.

Ellen Drowns - September 14, 2023 at 10:48 AM

SG

“ I remember when you were a little girl and I would take you to Alexander Hornung Meat Market and they would give you a free hot dog. Remember when I took you downtown in your little gingham coat and tulip hat that nonna made you. You loved to go out and loved the airplane ride with Tom at the Detroit City Airport. Now you soar higher than any airplane can take you never leaving us behind because you know we will always need and love you. You were the kindest, most loving and giving person and I feel blessed to be your Auntie Suzie forever. Uncle Hank, Leighanne and Kristen

Suzanne Garrick - September 13, 2023 at 06:24 PM

NO

“ I was sorry to hear of Diana’s passing. She was a great attorney who helped my paralegal and others I sent to her. My sincere condolences to her family. Neil O’Connor

Neil O’Connor - September 13, 2023 at 01:00 PM

JO

“ Time will somewhat numb the pain of yr irreparable loss to be eased further by recognition of the reward of having had DBD in yr lives. J. Fennimore

josephfennimore - September 13, 2023 at 10:36 AM

MW

“ Dear Bob, Michael and Christopher, When I opened the newspaper this morning, I was shocked and saddened to read about Diana's passing. She was the most thoughtful, sweet person who adored her husband and her boys. My fondest memory of Diana was at the law firm at 39 No. Pearl was when she drove me to my doctor when I had a severe nose bleed. I never forgot her for that kindness. She always talked about her boys and the last time I saw her we talked about Bob and Michael and Christopher. Please know how much she was so loved by the staff at 39. I am so sorry for your loss. Marcy



Martha Lasher Warner - September 13, 2023 at 10:00 AM



“ Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Diana K. Bangert-Drowns.



September 13, 2023 at 09:47 AM