



Suzanne M. Waltz

May 8, 1946 - April 17, 2020

Albany-Suzanne Marie DeMouth Waltz, 73, passed away at St. Peter's Hospital on April 17 of complications following a heart attack. Born in Newburgh, NY, she lived in Warwick, NY before moving with family to Albany. A 1964 graduate of Mercy High School, she married Craig R. Waltz Sr. in 1965, and was thereafter a lifelong Albany resident.

Suzanne was a force of nature: groundshaker, shatterer of glass ceilings, committed feminist, LGBT ally long before it was fashionable. She never backed down from a bully nor faltered in the face of the cruel. She won over the bitterest adversaries by being equal parts relentless and generous of heart. She believed public and community service were a calling, and intelligence and education bring responsibility, not privilege.

A Union leader at CSEA (DMV Local 674 president) and NYSDOL PEF division leader, the Capital District Solidarity Committee, and the Capital District Area Labor Federation, she was one of the State's first female Public Employees Safety and Health Inspectors. She championed workers' rights to a safe workplace, leading the call for legislation on VDT safety and ergonomic equipment, co-creating One Person Plowing Safety Protocols for NYSDOT, and training and lobbying for legislation to prevent workplace violence.

Community was important for Suzanne, from her youth as a “Polio Pioneer” to 20+ years of service in the Albany county Democratic Party as 9th Ward Deputy Ward Leader and committee-person in the 8th and 9th Wards. She was past president of Albany Vanguard, Women’s Club of Albany board member, Ten Broeck Mansion docent, Guilderland Garden Club member, co-founder of Norman’s Kill N.A., founding member of Helderberg N.A. and Assistant Scoutmaster, Boy Scout Troop 33. Suzanne was an active member of Mater Christi parish, a Sisters of Mercy Associate, and member of the Peace and Justice Committee.

An accomplished photographer, her work was published in the book Unseen America and displayed at the Guggenheim Museum and the National Gallery. She received the “Bread and Roses” Award for promoting the cause of women in the Labor movement and the Polly Noonan Award recognizing her as a “Woman of Distinction”.

Suzanne loved the “Mercy Girls” luncheons, “Tuesdays on the Porch” with Women’s Club friends, antiquing, cooking, concerts of all kinds, trips to the ocean, the Adirondacks, Ireland and the Newport Flower Show with son Craig.

Animals were among her greatest loves and she never forgot the name of any dog she met, always having a treat for all. She rescued numerous cats and dogs, supported rescue organizations, and worked for improvements to the Hartmann Rd. Dog Park and signage to reduce deer deaths along Upper New Scotland Road.

She is survived by son Craig R. (Terry) Waltz Jr., siblings Victor (Kristen) Demouth, Madelon McManus, Melanie Ball, James DeMouth, and Thomas DeMouth, nieces and nephews Bridget (Dan) Byrnes, John McManus, Victor (Courtney) DeMouth, Nicole DeMouth, Dylan and Seychelle Ball, four grandnieces and nephews, uncle Norman J. Demouth, cousins Ivar and Louis Bauer, Debbie and Ryan Hallissey, Donald Drew, Jill Ayers Moering, dog Joey, cats Jackson, Sacco and Vanzetti, many long-term friends and neighbors including friends of over 50 years Sheila Jordan and Nancy (Jim) Thomson,.

Due to the COVID-10 Pandemic, a private family service will be held at McVeigh Funeral Home followed by a graveside service at St. Agnes Cemetery. A full celebration of Suzanne's life will be held after restrictions are lifted.

Those wishing to make a contribution in Suzanne's memory may do so to Ten Broeck Mansion, Women's Club of Albany, Albany Vanguard, or Cathedral In Bloom c/o The Enchanted Florist. Condolences may also be directed to the family at 1 Fairway Court, Albany, 12208.

The family thanks the doctors, nurses, and support staff of St. Peter's Hospital who worked tirelessly on Suzanne's behalf under incredible circumstances and the friendship, guidance, and care of Dr. Sean P. Roche and his team from Albany Family Practice.

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

Tribute Wall



“ *Craig and Family: Tender sympathies as you continue to honor and remember your wonderful Mother.*

Sharon Wesley - May 01, 2025 at 11:03 PM



“ *Suzanne M. Waltz*

October 08, 2023 at 09:24 PM



“ *Craig and Bob,
My sincere condolences at the loss of your Mom, Suzanne. I always appreciated and admired her hospitality, creativity, and her personality. She will be dearly missed.*

Phyllis - May 26, 2020 at 11:04 PM



“ *Capital Area Council of Churches, Ecumenical Witnesses of Baptism program honor Suzanne's memory as a loyal and deeply committed member of the program, sharing her love of both ecumenism and small children by witnessing as many baptisms as her busy schedule allowed. She will be greatly missed by all who knew her indomitable spirit and shared her commitment.
Miranda Rand, EWB Coordinator*

Miranda Rand - April 25, 2020 at 12:10 AM

DC

“ Jay & Terri
You have my deepest sympathy your mom was a wonderful person
and she will be missed.
Hugs and kisses
Deborah clark

Deborah clark - April 24, 2020 at 08:02 PM

TD

“ Ever happy, offering a smile and open arms, a true friend, always
enjoying a good laugh, and a great story. Truly one in a billion
personality. She offered hope, peace, advice or just a listening ear.
Suz offered a genuine feeling of selflessness, someone you wanted
to spend time with, we looked forward to seeing her each day for
breakfast, as did the rest of our diner family. She gave all the kiddos
special attention, but Mason and Bella might have been her
favorites, always reading them stories, teaching them new things,
playing with them and holding their attention, no matter what the
topic. Suz my dear friend, you will be truly missed (you already are)
I am ever grateful to have had the opportunity to have known you,
I'm a better person because of your presence,
Rest peacefully~ so much love

Tracey Dewey - April 23, 2020 at 08:26 PM

JT

“ Craig and family . My condolences .

James Tobin - April 23, 2020 at 01:07 PM

BB

“ My Aunt Sue was a wonderful, upbeat, and kind-hearted woman. She was always supportive of me and cared for all. I'm sure I speak for all of my family and friends when I say she will be missed. I loved her and will miss her dearly.

Brendon Becker - April 23, 2020 at 08:38 AM

BB

“ Growing up, Suzanne was my second Mom. She was easy to talk to, caring, and fun to be around. She was a dedicated Mother, exemplary civil servant, and great friend to all who came her way. I love you Ma, and I'm going to miss you all my days.

Bob Becker - April 23, 2020 at 07:36 AM

FP

“ Suzanne cared about workers and their safety and did a great job enforcing safety standards. Whenever I discovered a safety issue for union public employees I represented she was there! That's how the Albany Water Dept. decided to buy trench boxes! She was a fun person with many humane interests. I will miss her posts about feeding the skunk cat food!
Condolences to Craig and family!
Fred Pfeiffer and Melanie Pores

Fred Pfeiffer - April 22, 2020 at 07:44 PM

NT

“ *Suzie was an amazing woman and I could not have asked for a more loving and supportive friend. I was about 12 years old when she and her sister Lonnie showed up at my family's horse barn and have been life long friends since. There were a few times when we lost touch but always managed to get back together. We had some incredible fun times- she was a free spirit and always ready for an adventure. Jim and I are extremely saddened by her passing, but have many great memories of her. We will never forget her love for JR, her family, her many friends and Joey and the boys.*

Nancy and Jim Thomson

Nancy Thomson - April 22, 2020 at 03:05 PM

AP

I will never forget Suzie, she was a wonderful friend of mine. She was my supervisor at dmv. Always had a kind word. She had a love of her animals. She always spoke very highly of JR and her family. I will miss her. May she RIP

Angie Armao Pavlak - April 22, 2020 at 10:01 PM



Suzie was my first friend, we became blood sisters by rubbing the blood from our cut fingers together ... when I got home and told my mother...she said...you girls didn't need to do that you are already blood relatives...Seems our grand parents were cousins which made us 3rd cousins! Gotta love small towns where families go back hundreds of years as did ours! She moved to Albany to be close to her mom's family, and although we wrote for a few years and she visited me when town, we both ended up thinking the other had stopped writing which was not true. We reconnected a few years ago in a heartfelt reunion that had us both in tears the moment we saw each other. We picked up as if not a day had gone by. I love her so much and always will...my cousin, my friend...the best human ever created. I will miss her forever.

Jill Moering - May 01, 2020 at 10:55 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Suzanne M. Waltz.*



April 22, 2020 at 02:55 PM



“ *4 files added to the tribute wall*



Soïbon - April 21, 2020 at 09:33 PM



“ *Suzie was like a sister to me. She took me for my hernia surgery and took care of me. She came to my Dad's memorial service and cooked a lot of delicious food for our family. She and Craig came to my 50th birthday party. She came to my brother's memorial service. She will be greatly missed. I could go on and on about how what a caring and kind individual she was . She even adopted one of the feral cats and named him Donald after my Dad. She had a great sense of humor and never stopped giving. I miss you Suzie and love you.*



Deborah Hallisey - April 21, 2020 at 05:20 PM



Suzi and I have been friends for 46 years. We have had more adventures than I could list hear. We shared a common love of politics, family, friends, pets and the common good of all human kind (even when it seemed there was none to be found). I miss her but feel blessed to have such cherished memories. She was my pink/purple haired unique friend. May she RIP. ❤️

Grace Hull-Hughes - April 21, 2020 at 08:55 PM

MF

I remember Sue as part of the DMV family back in the day when everyone looked after each other. Sue was always thoughtful and kind, we traveled all over the state for union business had many laughs and drinks too, Sue always Rest In Peace

Mike Febraio

Mike Febraio - April 22, 2020 at 08:33 AM

JF

My deepest condolences to you and your family, Craig. I know this is a terribly difficult time, but I must say that reading the words of who she was felt like she was a super woman. I can see where her passions have become yours. Be well, my friend.

joseph fello - April 22, 2020 at 02:18 PM

PP

*Craig, Victor.. my condolences for the loss of your mom and sister. Suzie was a one of kind human being. Those people are so rare, giving 100% of themselves to make things right for others. She touched the hearts and souls of so many people. Its a great loss she has left us.
Paul Powers*

Paul Powers - April 22, 2020 at 08:15 PM

WC

Craig, Joanne and I are deeply saddened by Sue's untimely passing. She was a wonderful, caring person with an unshakable sense of duty and loyalty. She was an inspiration to all who were privileged to know her and truly larger than life. We will never be able to thank both of you enough for all you have done for our family over the years. She will be missed my friend.

Will Carter - April 23, 2020 at 08:48 AM