



## Debra Dawn Maso

February 6, 1954 - September 18, 2023

Debra (Deb) was born in Spencer, Iowa on February 6, 1954, to Duane and Margaret (Tate) Blake and died peacefully at home in Fort Collins, Colorado on September 18, 2023.

Deb was married to Robert Maso on September 27, 1980 at the Prince of Peace Chapel in Aspen Colorado and is survived by him, daughter Lauren Maso, sister Kara Blake, nephew Ryan Blake, niece Robin (Blake) Stathopoulos, and an extended step family.

She attended Aims Community College where she earned an Associates Degree in Child Development, and went on to found the Rainbow Center for Young Children in Carbondale Colorado. Deb had a lifelong passion for children and took pride in knowing that many of her "Rainbow Kids" went on to be successful in their adult lives.

Deb was a devoted mother to her daughter Lauren, guiding her development and education throughout her life.

In accordance with Deb's wishes there is no memorial service planned at this time. For those who wish to the family kindly requests that contributions be made to Breast Cancer Research or related organizations. Your generosity will make a difference in the lives of those affected by this devastating

disease.

Deb will be sorely missed by her family and friends, and we will cherish the memories of the time we were blessed to have with her.

# Tribute Wall

RM

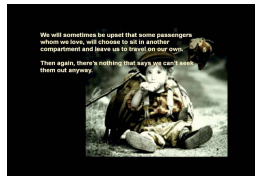
“ Where do you go to find the words when they all seem to have run away? Christmas is nearly upon us, and this will be the first one without Deb in 44 years.

*It has been 3 months since she passed, and although it is said that time heals, the pain of her departing will require much more of it for me.*

*We met by chance on an evening all those years ago, and my life was changed forever. Like a lot of people, our years saw both good and bad times, but we made it through them all by staying together. I'm eternally grateful for the life we had, and for our beautiful daughter Lauren who is walking the road of grieving with me.*

*Deb is still present in all that we do. A light that shined as brightly as hers has not been dimmed by her making the journey to the other side ahead of us.*

*So we miss you Baba, but carry you with us in our hearts every day.*



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**Robert Maso** - December 24, 2023 at 06:30 PM

“Grief is weird, even when you know it’s going to hit you and hit you hard there’s just nothing to truly prepare you for it. And it hit me very hard this morning, my first Thanksgiving without my mom. If you knew us you knew how incredibly close we were, she was genuinely my best friend. We Skyped each other almost every day the 3 years I was in Japan (she got to see everything in my house shake from an earthquake live one time 😞). We watched *Dancing With The Stars* and *Masterpiece Theater* shows together religiously, and she always kept me up on *90 Day Fiancé*. She was a ‘second mom’ to all my close friends, always knowing the right thing to say when they were anxious about something. She was my biggest fan and supporter of all my creative endeavors, enrolling me in summer art classes starting when I was five. And she was the funniest person I knew with the most wonderful laugh of her own.

*This time last year I was driving her to doctor appointments and medical scans seemingly everyday, praying the results were gonna be something different than that big awful dreaded word. But it was that big awful dreaded word, paired with possibly an even worse word: “metastatic”. Even with these words now in our lives, we stayed positive, kept going fairly normally, just with more pills and a lot more medical visits. She was increasingly tired and spending more time in her room but I was always in the next room, fetching her whatever she needed and popping in to show her cool art or funny cat memes. When we said goodnight I would say “You’re my best mom” and she’s say “You’re my best Lauren”.*

*The last time I said goodnight to her I asked if she was sure she didn’t need anything and she said “No it’s okay, I can yell”.*

*Then she was gone. It was how she would have wanted it, just peaceful in her sleep and before the cancer had a chance to completely take away her quality of life. And she knew how much I loved her and I knew how much she loved me. Still there’s nothing I wouldn’t do for one more month, week, day with her. One more drive to get chili fries and frozen custard at Good Times, one more*

*laughing fit from something funny my dad said, one more chance to hear her say "You're my best Lauren".*

*But today especially I'm thankful for the time we did have together, and we got more than most. I'm thankful for the love of art she instilled in me. I'm thankful I was able to help her as much as I did (and I know I did everything I could even if I sometime feel like I could have done more). And I'm weirdly thankful for my grief, because it's all the remaining love I feel from her and for her.*

*You're my best mom. I love you to the stars and back and I always will.*



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**Lauren Maso** - November 23, 2023 at 03:07 PM

SL

*Beautifully said and she will always be with you ❤️. Love you, Aunt Sandy 💕💕*

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**Sandra Maso Lericos** - November 23, 2023 at 03:59 PM

SL

*“ Sending Love and sympathy to Bob and Lauren at this time. Know Deb is with her parents, brother & loved ones who have gone before & is at peace. Cherish the many memories you have of her and hold them in your hearts until you meet again. Love, Sandy(Sis) & Paul*

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**Sandra & Paul Lericos** - November 16, 2023 at 03:52 PM

CJ

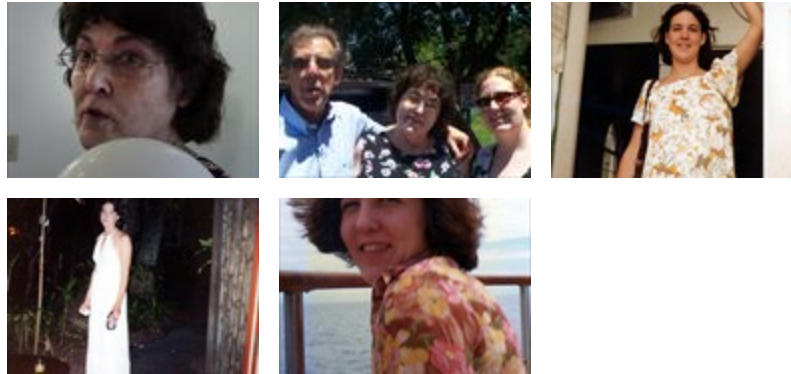
“ *Bob, Lauren, and family,  
Cherish your memories and hold Deb close in your hearts. May Deb  
rest in peace and the support of family and friends ease your loss.  
Our sympathies.*

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**Carol and Rick Jansen** - November 14, 2023 at 12:31 AM

KB

“ *Debra was my bright, beautiful and talented sister. She passed far  
too soon.*



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**Kara Blake** - November 13, 2023 at 04:05 PM

SL

*Beautiful tribute to Deb* 💕

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**Sandra Maso Lericos** - November 23, 2023 at 03:55 PM