



## Debra Jean Obeshaw

July 28, 1958 - August 3, 2025

With heavy hearts and deep love, we announce the passing of Debra Jean Obeshaw, age 67, on August 3, 2025. Born on July 28, 1958, to Lawrence and Charlotte (Huyck) Belonga, Debra spent the majority of her life in St. Ignace, Michigan, where she rooted her family, shared her strength, and brought light to all who knew her.

Debra was a proud member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, and her spirit reflected the vibrant, enduring strength of her heritage.

Debra lived life with bold joy, unfiltered honesty, and a radiant spirit. She loved being near or in the water, where she could truly relax and feel at peace. Music was in her soul, she could be found dancing to her favorite songs, drinking a cold Hard Mike's Lemonade, and making everyone laugh until they cried. She was the life of the party, the loudest cheerleader, and the most fun person in any room. She loved romance novels, reality shows, family gatherings, and a good, sassy conversation. No matter what the day held, Debra never left the house without making sure her hair looked perfect, even on her last day. Debra was the most stubborn woman you had ever met, but we wouldn't have wanted her any other way.

Debra was the loving mother of two sons, Duane "Chris" Obeshaw and Bill Obeshaw, and the cherished Nana of Dakota, Tiffany, Jade, Ryker, and

Kayleigh. To her grandchildren, she was more than a grandmother, she was our other parent, our nurturer, our protector, and our best friend. She was always there with a listening ear, a comforting hug, or the right words when we needed them most. Nana would have done anything for us. Her love for us was endless, and we felt it every single day.

Debra is survived by her four beloved sisters, Laura (Bill) Schwiderson, Dorrine (Buck) Smith, Cheryl Lavake, and Sylvia Belonga, each of whom shared a lifetime of memories, mischief, and sisterhood with her. She will also be deeply missed by many other loved ones, including nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, extended family, and dear friends who were blessed by her presence and her heart.

Debra was preceded in death by her sisters, Beatrice "Peanut" LePire and Norrine Herbst; brother, Lawrence "Jack" Belonga; mother, Charlotte "Peggy" Belonga; father, Lawrence Belonga; and her former husband and father of her children, Duane "Dude" J. Obeshaw. She now joins them in eternal peace.

A public Celebration of Life will be held in her honor and details will be shared with family and friends. Please honor Debra's memory by sharing a laugh, turning up the music, raising a glass, and dancing without shame, just like she would have.

Condolences may be left to the family at [www.familylifefh.com](http://www.familylifefh.com).

Obituary as submitted by family

# Tribute Wall

MI

“ So sorry for your loss Cherish the memories  
Mike & Diane



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**Mike** - August 10, 2025 at 03:34 PM

NC

“ Not a memory but I will most definitely miss  
having her as a neighbor and hearing her  
music bumping as I walk through the building.  
Or seeing her on the porch soaking up the  
nice weather. Little conversations while  
passing in the hallway she had the best laugh too. Going to be  
weird not seeing her around. Thinking of all you.



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**Nicole Coveyou** - August 06, 2025 at 03:51 PM

BW

*I did not know Debra.. BUT, her OBIT was great.. Especially. The first few lines. You captured alot in the first sentence. Nice job...well done. May she RIP.*

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**Bob Wiles** - August 06, 2025 at 04:01 PM