



Diane M. Rock

August 2, 1947 - December 7, 2023

Dodgeville – Diane Marie Rock, age 76, of Dodgeville, passed away peacefully on Thursday, December 7, 2023.

The former Diane Simone was born on August 2, 1947, in Milwaukee, WI. She graduated from Janesville Craig High School and later St. Norbert College (her dad had high hopes that she would marry a Green Bay Packer – true story). She went on to become a teacher's aide at Dodgeville Elementary School, which led to a full-time teaching position. She loved, loved, LOVED teaching and her students!

Mom married Robert Rock Jr. on February 22, 1969. They were blessed with three children: Jennifer, Robbie, and Jessica.

Bill Lewis came into Mom's life in March 1993. Mom and Bill shared decades together and created countless memories. They were the love of each others' lives. Bill has a special place in our hearts as he assisted Mom through so much over the past few years. Bill's son, Dustin, has also been an enormous part of Mom's life. Together, they taught each other much about life.

Mom loved traditions and creating memories with her family. She never expected anything elaborate from anyone as she treasured the simple things in life. She always went above and beyond when it came to taking photos with

her family and friends.

Mom's heart filled with happiness when surrounded by family, and a special bond existed with her grandchildren. The memories they share are so very special. Grandie was so extremely proud of them.

Mom's passion for walking is legendary. She was known to briskly walk around Dodgeville for decades. If you didn't see her walking the sidewalks of the community, you might find her walking at school, Walmart, or the hospital.

Nothing seemed to slow her down until later in life. She worked hard to provide for and support her family in any way she could. She raised three children as a single mother and instilled in us kindness and compassion for others.

Diane is survived by her significant other, Bill Lewis, and her children: Jennifer (Tim Paradis), Robbie (Beth), Jessica (Mark Mook), and Dustin Lewis (Kaitlyn and her son, Michael). Grandchildren: Abe, Ella, Eli, Liam, Bella, Lilly, and Ashlee (Richard, Addison, Logan and Nora). Also, her fur-grandbabies, Jack and Lucy made her smile immensely.

Mom was blessed in life by many wonderful people including countless, glorious teacher-friends who have been so supportive throughout her life.

Mom was preceded in death by her parents, Eugene and Georgette Simone, and her forever best friend Eileen Evans (Patey).

Family and friends are invited to join us for A Celebration of Life for Diane on Sunday, December 17, 2023 from 11 am – 4 pm at the DODGER BOWL. Diane was a huge Packer fan. Please wear your Packer attire as the game will be televised during the Celebration.

In lieu of flowers, To honor Diane, please consider donating to the Dodgeville Area Scholarship Foundation, Inc., PO Box 111, Dodgeville, WI 53533.

Mom, thank you for always doing your best with us and for our brown eyes. You will forever and always be with us. We will forever and always love you.

A very special thank you for Beehive Memory Care in Mount Horeb. Your compassion, care and love has been a gift not only to mom, but also to her family.

Cemetery Details

St. Joseph's Cemetery

Compassion Way
Dodgeville, WI 53533

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

DEC 17. 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Dodger Bowl
321 King Street
Dodgeville, WI 53533

Tribute Wall



“ I worked for a Home Health company and was hired to work for Diane every other weekend. She ate so very healthy and we would drive to the hospital and she would walk for hours. I'm in my 40s and couldn't keep up with her. She absolutely amazed me. I am sorry to hear of her passing. Thank you for teaching me about intermittent fasting Diane. It's helped me get healthy! God bless and rest in peace



Tanya Westenfelt-Marino - May 02, 2025 at 12:45 PM

CP

“ I am one of the people who often met Diane while walking the streets of Dodgeville. We often chatted, but not for very long and I may have tried to walk with her once or twice but couldn't match her fast pace. She was a bright spot in our neighborhood! Sincere sympathy to her family and friends.

Cathy Palzkill - December 28, 2023 at 03:54 PM

RK

“ I taught with Diane at DES. Diane loved and cherished all of her students. She always had a positive thought and welcoming smile for every child that entered her room. My thoughts are with her family.

Rebecca Kretschman

Rebecca Kretschman - December 19, 2023 at 07:50 PM

TW

“ To Jennifer, Jessica and Robbie,

Your mom was the best!! She put up with a lot from the Whitford Boys (Bill and myself) for many years as you guys were great neighbors for many years. Your mom took exceptional care of me when I decided to light my pants on fire and burn my leg pretty good. Nothing but great memories of her and you guys growing up on Fountain Street. The picture that is shown is just how I remember her when we moved away to the Northside!! She was a great person and will be missed by many. Thinking of all of you !!

Tim Whitford

Tim Whitford - December 18, 2023 at 03:37 PM

DT

“ I met Mona through my cousin, Cass Conley. Mona was a part of a threesome at Saint Williams along with Eileen Paterick. The three girls would ride their bikes over to Saint Mary’s, where I went to school, to flirt with the 8th grade boys.



Mona was always so sweet and beautiful. She always wanted everyone to be happy! We had many fun times in high school and then at St. Norbert college. I remember practicing smoking in our dorm room and wetting washcloths and whirling them around the room so no one could smell the cigarettes. We went to the bar, The Prom, on Friday nights with other girls. We joined the same sorority and laughed our way through “hell week.” Mona was fun and kind through it all.

The last few years we talked about life a lot. Mona would tell me how much she loved Bill and her children and grandchildren and how proud she was of all of them. She always asked for prayers and said she would pray for me and mine.

Love you, Mona. Tell Patey and Cass I love them too.

Decklynn Wirth Theisen - December 15, 2023 at 08:11 AM

SA

“ So sorry to hear about Diane’s passing. We grew up together since first grade at St Williams in Janesville. My parents and her parents were close. Always had a boyhood crush on her. I’ll always remember her beautiful smile and how it would stand out against her olive skin. My wife and I stopped at her place once in the 70s while I attended Platteville. That was the last time I had seen her. All the attributes from her colleagues doesn’t surprise me. I could see that she would have made an excellent teacher. We could all use more like her. God rest her soul.

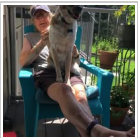
Sam Angilello - December 12, 2023 at 07:44 PM

JP

“ It was a blessing to work with Diane at DES. Her genuine love for children was like no other. Teaching was a work of her heart. She cared deeply for others and always shared kindness and love. Diane was humble and was quick to raise others up around her. She was generous with grace and always extended a helping hand, a welcoming hello, and warm smile. She was one of a kind. She has left a legacy of fingerprints on many hearts and will be deeply missed. Rest in peace, Ms. Rock. My deepest sympathies to her family.



Julie Piper - December 12, 2023 at 02:19 PM



“ I am so sorry for your loss. I lost mine and I know your pain. I think of her everyday and love my memories. From the comments, she was a wonderful person and Mother. Your family has always been special to me. I wish you peace.

Jon Jacka - December 11, 2023 at 03:21 PM

AA

“ I worked with Diane for many years at DES. She was always kind to students, parents and staff members. As she walked the building she greeted everyone with good morning or hello making everyone feel welcome and appreciated! She was a special lady and won't soon be forgotten. Thank you for the memories Diane, I will cherish them always!

Annette Anderson - December 11, 2023 at 10:28 AM

MO

“ She was an amazing teacher. She was my favorite teacher. I always look forward to see her every day in class. I'm going to miss her ❤️

moll - December 08, 2023 at 07:55 PM

SB

“ Diane was an excellent teacher who helped students develop a positive self-concept, believe in themselves, and work well with others both in and out of the classroom. When I got the job as the elementary school librarian across the hall from her 3rd grade classroom, she made me feel welcome from the very first day! When my husband suddenly passed away at a young age, she was very kind and comforting, and helped me through that difficult time every step of the way. She was a very supportive person, who made such a positive difference in the lives of students and staff!! She will be greatly missed!! I am praying God's strength, peace, and comfort for you all. With love, prayers, and support, Susan Bendik.

Susan Bendik - December 08, 2023 at 07:53 PM

BO

“ I cannot think of a greater human being who has graced this planet. Diane was the most sincere and genuinely kind person who cared deeply for everyone she knew. She touched countless lives, children and adults, and changed them all for the better. This world would definitely be an amazing place if everyone were like Diane Rock.

Barb Ouimet - December 08, 2023 at 07:01 PM

KH

Diane, really helped my daughter Erin she was so compassionate and sweet . Teachers are not so much like the any more . So sorry for her family ❤️❤️❤️

Kristine halverson - December 08, 2023 at 07:33 PM



So sorry to hear of Diane's passing. The comments sure point to how special she was to so many people. Your family is very special to me and am thinking of you

Jon Jacka - December 10, 2023 at 05:01 PM

DE

“ Mrs.Rock was my 3rd grade teacher, it was such a tough home life for me that year and she always made sure I was ok. Even after I left her class she still checked in on me. One of the greatest women I have ever known .

Denise - December 08, 2023 at 06:07 PM