



## Diane Vanina Dunville

February 7, 1946 - February 5, 2022

Our very special Diane was guided to her heavenly home by angels Saturday night, February 5, 2022. Her pain and suffering over, she has now joined her family, friends, and her beloved husband Larry. What a beautiful reunion, no doubt, as she was welcomed home by those who loved her so dearly.

Diane was born in Butte to Julius and June Vanina on February 7, 1946 and raised on the family ranch in Elk Park. Having a love for all animals, she kept very busy and enjoyed the ranch life. It was there she met and fell in love with Don Thomas who worked for her folks. They were married on September 11, 1964 and had three children, Mike, Cindy and Lisa. She and Donny were married for 24 years and as Donny's health failed due to ALS (Lou Gehrig's Disease), she became his caregiver and what a wonderful job she did. Through the use of lifts and special equipment she single-handedly cared for him at home until this devastating and debilitating disease took his life on March 18, 1988.

Years later she met the man of her dreams at the Belmont Senior Center. She and Larry Dunville fell head over heels in love and on April 10, 2003 they were the first couple to get married at the Belmont. She and her husband enjoyed 17 years of marital bliss until his passing 2 years ago due to respiratory complications. Again she was meticulous in everything she did for Larry. Caregiving was truly her calling. She deeply mourned his passing. Diane spent the last several years of her life at The Springs Assisted

Living Facility. It was there she found comfort and support and was surrounded by staff and friends who loved her. She was the first one on the bus to go on many outings and her life was so enriched by the wonderful staff and activities there. We want to acknowledge Andrew Zemljak, an employee at The Springs who brought so much joy to her stay there. They shared a bond like no other. His love for not only Diane but for all residents there is beyond belief. He was heaven sent for our family, especially Diane. We also want to thank Patty Corette, her dear friend, who was at her bedside constantly especially during this past week. We are so fortunate to have these wonderful people in our lives. What a blessing they truly are.

We want to thank St. James Healthcare 5th floor staff as well as Dr. Digiovine, and the hospitalists caring for Diane, especially Dr. Yakymovych who faithfully reported to our family on a daily basis with expertise, compassion and empathy. We would also like to thank Stephanie Forbes from Encompass Hospice who was so kind and empathetic to us as we faced the heartbreak of watching Diane's journey.

She was preceded in death by her parents, June and Julius Vanina; sister Marilyn; grandparents, Fred and Irene Searle and Mose and Elvira Vanina and their family Elmo, Lydia and Mario; husbands Larry Dunville and Don Thomas; son Mike Thomas and daughter Cindy Bergey; special uncles Red Vanina and Fred Searle and cousin Shawn Searle.

She is survived by her sister Sue (Max) Decker; daughter Lisa Kerbersky and her family; nephews Neil (Michelle) Decker and their daughter Ellison; Casey (Laura) Decker and their children, Jack, Ben and Luke; and niece Amy Decker. Also very special aunt, Pat Searle; cousins Judy (Tom) Kiely and their family; Dave and Barb Searle and their family; Joan (Bill) Filpula and their family; Leo Calcaterra and his family; and "Cousin Tina" Stajcar. Due to Covid concerns, private family services will be held.

# Cemetery Details

## Mountain View Cemetery

3910 Harrison Avenue  
Butte, MT 59701

# Tribute Wall

AP

“ *Grandma you are very loved and truly going to be missed. We love you* ❤️❤️❤️

*Love all your grandkids  
Amanda, Mike, Tony, Eddie, Allen and Kyle.  
and your Daughter Lisa*

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**Amanda Plevinski** - April 05, 2022 at 09:32 PM