



## Jeanne Biafora

June 21, 1953 - June 18, 2020

Jean (Jeanne) Ann Biafora, age 66, passed away on June 18, 2020 in her home in Royal Oak, MI.

Jeanne was born in Detroit, MI on June 21, 1953, daughter of Eugene and Aeriellia Swartz. She worked for many years as vice president of a small manufacturing firm before returning to Baker College to earn her bachelor's degree, then starting a new career as a project manager for the Beaumont Foundation. She is survived by her children, Kelley Chatman and Kimberly Biafora; granddaughter, Ava Chatman; brothers, Phillip and Ronald Swartz; and sisters, Janet Corey and Patricia (Sue) Colling.

Anyone who knew Jeanne was taken by her kindness and generosity, her patience and grace, her strength of spirit. She was tremendously creative and talented and excelled at home improvement projects and interior design, arts and crafts, and solving any problem you presented her. In her later years, she picked up swing dancing and Reiki practice, easing the physical and emotional pain of others. As a mother and grandmother, she was both a best friend and a beacon of strength and resilience. She inspired her family and those near her to be better, kinder, and more self-reliant. Jeanne's passing has left a great void in their hearts and lives.

The funeral service will take place on Monday, June 22, 2020 at:

Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Home  
705 W 11 Mile Road  
Royal Oak, MI 48067  
248-541-7000

Visitation will be from 5:30 pm-6:30 pm  
Memorial Service from 6:30 pm-7:30 pm  
Dinner to follow, restaurant TBD

Note: Due to Executive Orders, masks are required and visitation is limited to 10 people at one time.

A livestream/webcast of the funeral service will be accessible at <https://www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com/obituaries/Jean-Biafora/#!/PhotosVideos/00000000-0000-0000-0000-000000000001/WebcastVideo>

# Previous Events

## Memorial Visitation

JUN **22**. 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM (ET)

Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Directors-Royal Oak  
705 W. Eleven Mile Road  
Royal Oak, MI 48067  
(248) 541-7000  
royal@sullivanfh.com  
<https://www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com/>

## Memorial Service

JUN **22**. 6:30 PM (ET)

Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Directors-Royal Oak  
705 W. Eleven Mile Road  
Royal Oak, MI 48067  
(248) 541-7000  
royal@sullivanfh.com  
<https://www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com/>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Directors created a Webcast in memory of Jeanne Biafora*



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**Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Directors** - June 22, 2020 at 03:35 PM

CS

*I am so gratefule for this video. Heartbroken that we could not be there. love you Jeanne, Claire and Andy*

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**Claire Sleboda** - June 22, 2020 at 07:19 PM

CM

*Thank you. It is so appreciated to be able to be present for this service. It is a priceless gift that you did this webcast. Cathleen Motta (former sister in law) Albany, NY*

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**Cathleen Motta** - June 22, 2020 at 07:19 PM

CS

*Jeanne came into my life when we were 16. As I recall, I introduced her to my brother, Matt. We remained close. She even made my wedding gown, went into labor with Kelli during my last fitting. But she was determined to finish that dress. Took off the dress and off to the hospital I went with her and Matt. Sadly as life events unfolded, we drifted apart. I feel grateful to have know her. and am proud of both Kelli and Kimberly for the wonderful women they have become. All our love, Aunt Claire and Uncle Andy.*

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**Claire Sleboda** - June 22, 2020 at 07:25 PM

MM

“ We met Jeannie at Mr. B's swing dancing lessons a few years ago. From the first night, we felt like good friends. It was great spending time with her and she was a lot of fun to be around. We'll miss her. So very sorry for the family's sudden loss.

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**Mike and Alice Marrow** - June 24, 2020 at 07:23 AM

KG

“ Our though and prayers to Kim and Kelly. Jeanne’s your mom, your friend, your confidante. Your mom touched so many lives

*Jeanne was such an inspiration to me. She was the coolest person in my growing-up years. I know she had some teenage angst, as we all did. But at that time I did too, so I looked up to her like she was my big sister, since I had to more or less take care of mine.*

*The time she “babysat” for us when Our parents flew to Uncle Bill’s wedding Was the cats pajamas! I was a tween and she was a bb teenager! I wish we had stayed in contact More as adults, we lived so close to each other. She was so kind, generous, and loving. Regretfully, I didn’t tell her.*

*So during this strange time we’re in, I want to tell you guys- Sue, Ron, Phil, and Janet- how important you all are*

*Your family was the one place I would want to be with. Loads of fun. I’d listen to your mom’s fascinating stories. My favorite Aunt. And I did tell her that later in life. She’d always make me laugh, along with your dad - who’d always have a beer and a joke for my hubby*

*Phil, my sidekick in crime. You always included me. We managed to have a lot of fun without getting in too much trouble. I’m sure the older cousin boys were more fun, but you always included me*

*Sweet Janet (yes, you are) and carol had each other, so I got to hang with the big kids!*

*Ron, you were always the smartest guy ever. I was always a little ashamed I didn’t perfect my sign. Thank you for being so patient with me. I’d hit myself on the head when I finally got your point. Thank you for being so understanding*

*And dear Sue. You were already grown when I was just coming of age. So fun, boisterous, and confident. I was a little intimidated. As*

*We got older, I so see your soft and caring side. We're probably more alike than I knew. Tough on the outside. I know how hard you must as suffered with your lost kids, and multiple times. After all these years my first impressions we're probably right: you are so strong, and now such an inspiration to me*

*Thank you Swartz Fam, for being such an important part of my life. Loosing Jeanne really hit close to home, and didn't want to waste anymore time to tell you how cherished you all are while we're tall still here on this wacky planet*

*Love you  
Cousin Kathy*

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**Kat Gayda** - June 23, 2020 at 12:05 AM

VL

“ *We are deeply saddened by the loss of your mother and your beloved friend, Jeanne. She touched so many people lives in a loving, positive manner, and fun memories were made to treasure. Please accept our heartfelt condolences. Words cannot begin to express the sadness you are feeling right now and how difficult this is to go through, just know that we are here for you and only a phone call away. Our hearts and thoughts are with you. Aunt Veronica and Uncle Greg*

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**Veronica and Greg Lee** - June 22, 2020 at 09:01 AM

CS

“ *Jeanne's laughter and sense of humor brought joy to even the most mundane moments of office life. She didn't like to see the people around her sweat the small stuff. She was a great listener. I sat next to Jeanne for about a year at Beaumont and sometimes it felt like we were on our own little island in a sea of cubicles. We shared so much with each other during that time. I wish I had let her know how much I appreciated her. I admired her vibrant, enthusiastic spirit but also her strength and tenacity. We are all going to miss Jeanne so much. But what I really want to say is this: Jeanne adored every moment she spent with her family, even the hard ones, and she absolutely treasured having Ava in her life. She was always so excited to tell me about the latest vacation they had planned, cake they made together, or funny moment that had happened over dinner the night before. I know her love will always shine down on them.*

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**Chelsea Schmidt** - June 21, 2020 at 11:42 PM

EG

“ *Jeanne was always smiling and enthusiastic at swing dancing on Wednesdays. We will miss her smile and positive attitude! None of us had any idea that she was ill. Rest in peace, sweet lady.*

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**Erika Gray** - June 21, 2020 at 10:21 PM

KS

“ *My heart and prayers go out to you Kim and Kelli. Aunt Jeanne was an awesome aunt and will be missed immensely. ❤️*



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**Kate Sleboda** - June 21, 2020 at 09:11 PM

CJ

“ I graduated with Jeanne. I knew of her in high school but I am not sure if she knew who I was. This hit me really hard for some reason. maybe because she was my graduating class. I remember her because she had a great smile. I still remember her senior picture in the yearbook which I still have. I looked in the book and it's just the way I rememberd her. RIP Jean.

Carmelo Portaro Jr - June 20, 2020 at 09:31 PM

 Cathy Titlow

“ I graduated high school with Jeanne, and although I did not know her well, I am still at a loss for words at the knowledge of her passing. My condolences to her family and especially to her daughters.



Cathy Titlow - June 20, 2020 at 08:57 PM

TM

“ I graduated from Utica High School with Jeanne. She was always a delight to talk to, always kind and always had a smile on her face.

Tim Moeller - June 20, 2020 at 08:45 PM



“ I worked with Jeanne for a little over a year at Beaumont, she did my new hire orientation and was my goto person for everything when I first started. She always made a point to ask me how my weekend was or my day...she was genuinely interested in the answer. We will feel her loss at Beaumont for quite some time. I am sending love to her family during this awful time.

Sarah Grutza - June 20, 2020 at 05:01 PM

CS

“ We are beyond saddened over your loss. Jeanne was a great lady. Many of our fondest memories are the times we spent with her. She will forever hold a special place in our hearts. All our love goes out to you and your family

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**Claire Sleboda** - June 20, 2020 at 04:08 PM

RP

“ So sorry to here of Jeanne”s passing! Jeanne & I we’re colleagues at Transpec for many years and also good friends! Her vibrant personality always lit-up the room! God Bless You Sweet Lady! Prayers and Condolences to your Family.

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**Robert Peticca** - June 20, 2020 at 03:30 PM

SC

“ I’m so sorry to hear about the loss of Jeanne. I had the pleasure of working with her for many years at Transpec. She was more than a co-worker, she was a friend. She taught me how to write professional business letters AND how to properly hang a picture! That was Jeanne! I will always remember her smile and vibrant personality. My deepest condolences to Kelli, Kim, her granddaughter Ava and the rest of her family.

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**Susan Cloutier** - June 20, 2020 at 01:39 PM

MH

“ Condolences to the entire family and my dear friend Kelli. You are in my thoughts and prayers.

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**Meghan Huot** - June 20, 2020 at 01:26 PM

LW

“ *My deepest condolences. I worked with Jeanne for several years. She always had a smile and was generous with her time just to listen or help me out. She will be missed.*

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**Laura Wolan** - June 20, 2020 at 12:27 PM

PP

“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



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**Priscilla Perkins** - June 20, 2020 at 09:24 AM

EC

“ *I'm both shocked and saddened to hear Jeanne passed away. Even though we haven't talked in years, memories stir in my mind. Just didn't want time to continue to go by without reaching out to tell you how saddened I am by her passing.*

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**Ed Callebaut** - June 20, 2020 at 08:23 AM

TI

“ *Jeanne was the pillar of our Transpec family. She was the calm in storm . So many happy Memories we all shared as our Transpec Family. I can still hear her laugh. May the Lord wrap his heavenly arms around you Jeanne & May the Lord give Kelley, Kimmy, Ava and all Jeanne's family the comfort and strength. God Bless You All. Terri Irwin*

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**Terri Irwin** - June 19, 2020 at 10:37 PM

CM

“ I knew Jeanne as my former sister in law who did remain a part of our family. She possessed many talents and yes was a beacon of strength and inspiration as a mother/grandmother. May the numerous loving memories sustain you at this time. Hugs, Aunt Cathleen

Cathleen Motta - June 19, 2020 at 10:36 PM



“ YOU ARE AT PEACE NOW WITH THE REST OF THE BIAFORA CLAN... GOD JUST RECEIVED ANOTHER ANGEL... GONE WAY TO SOON ... SENDING COMDOLENCES TO MY NIECES KELLI AND KIM, YOUR IN MY THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS!! LOVE AUNT BETH FLORIDA



Beth Biafora - June 19, 2020 at 09:56 PM

JP

“ I am so saddened by the loss of Jeanne. I was fortunate enough to work with her at Beaumont for five years. She was always kind, thoughtful and a supportive team member. I will always remember her laugh and her great sense of humor. She will be missed. My sincerest condolences to her family - you will be in my thoughts and prayers.

Jennifer Post - June 19, 2020 at 08:05 PM

DC

“ Jeanne was a classmate at Utica High School. I remember her as bring a quiet, kind and caring person. I know her passing will be difficult for her loved ones. Sending deepest condolences and prayers of peace and comfort for her family and friends.

Debbi Casey - June 19, 2020 at 08:01 PM



*Jeanne was a good person. Always in a good mood, even when things weren't going well. You could talk to her. Good person and will be missed by all.*

**Henry Reed** - June 20, 2020 at 08:50 AM

JL

“ Prayers for your family's loss 🙏🙏🙏. Jeanne was a classmate from high school. She always had a big friendly smile for everyone. May Jesus wrap you in his loving arms. RIP 🙏🙏🙏🙏

**JoAnne Locicero** - June 19, 2020 at 07:50 PM

 Shelly Jones

“ A wonderful woman who I met working at Transpec. She could always light up a room with a smile. She was always there for everyone. I have wonderful memories from work, our Christmas parties and little shenanigans around the office. Her memories will always make me smile. To her family, prayers to you during this time.

**Shelly Jones** - June 19, 2020 at 07:12 PM

DC

“ A lovely lady, we all loved to work for at Transpec. Remembering killing spiders for her when they showed up in the office. So gracious and talented. A great listener! Prayers to her girls and other family members! God Bless Dave and Debow (Masch) Coddington



**Debra Coddington** - June 19, 2020 at 06:59 PM

RM

“ *Jeanne was the epitome of kindness, gentleness. The cosmos gained an angel, the earth lost one.*

Rob Mouzas - June 19, 2020 at 06:57 PM

JC

*Absolutely!!*

Janet Corey - June 20, 2020 at 11:45 AM

DJ

“ *My sincere condolences to my friend Kelli and the entire family of Jeanne Biafora and all who loved her.*

*- Damisa Jackson*



Damisa Jackson - June 19, 2020 at 04:56 PM

JC

*Thank you*

Janet Corey - June 20, 2020 at 11:45 AM

MS

“ *Kelley & Kim: Your mom always joined in all our family events; she was always family. She is with your dad now, and other loved ones who have passed. She is probably redecorating heaven with my mom! You both are in my heart and prayers. Love, Aunt Mary from Florida*

Mary Smith - June 19, 2020 at 04:54 PM