



## Debbie Bailey

July 9, 2021

Deborah Kay Bailey was born on a snowy night on March 4, 1952 in St. Joseph, MO to Fay and Isabelle Cochran. She was the fifth of six children and grew up in Harrisburg, MO.

She married Chris Crawford in 1971 and together they had a son Michael. They later divorced and she moved to Iowa in 1978 where she attended Muscatine Community College. It was there where she met Matt Bailey in a class called Synergistics. The class was small and everyone got to know each other pretty well. As it turned out, they had quite a bit of synergy.

The two were interested in each other and she was waiting all semester for Matt to ask her out. Being a typical guy, Matt was a little slow to realize this beautiful girl was interested, but finally asked her out to lunch.

She accepted the invitation and they had lunch together at a Mexican restaurant. Debbie did not eat much and Matt thought she didn't like the food. But the real reason she did not have much appetite was because she had already had lunch that day but did not have the heart to say so.

They dated a few times until the end of the school year. Then came graduation and a party afterward for all the graduates. Debbie had also graduated as a single mom but had returned to Missouri. Matt was not

expecting to see her at the party but a mutual friend came up to Matt and whispered Debbie was indeed at the party. Knowing that she was going to have to do the driving in this budding relationship, she drove five hours from Missouri for the party with the sole purpose of seeing Matt.

After that they began dating a lot growing closer, and in fact dated for four years as Matt continued his education at the University of Iowa. At this point Debbie had the frank discussion with Matt about their relationship and gave him the choice of getting married or moving on. It was a loving version of “use the facility or get out of the bathroom.”

Matt saw the light and on May 15, 1982 they were married in Muscatine, IA in the backyard of the church in a simple beautiful ceremony. Their families from Missouri and Iowa were in attendance. Matt’s musician brother Andy wrote and performed a song on the piano.

Debbie, Matt and Mike moved to Coralville, a suburb of Iowa City in 1980. After trying to have a baby for several years and a couple of miscarriages, Debbie was pregnant with Miles. They had previously decided to buy their first house. Miles was born in April of 1988 and spent one night in the Coralville apartment before moving to their new house in Iowa City.

The couple loved living in Iowa City, a college town with much diversity, arts and culture. They vacationed in Colorado many times where Matt’s father was born and raised. In 2000 Matt took a voluntary transfer with his work to Ft. Collins, CO where they have lived since.

Debbie enjoyed card making, playing piano, cooking, organizing and taught us all a lot about life. She would save money to give randomly to people she would meet during the holidays, such as large tipping to servers. She was good at all the things that Matt was not, making for a very balanced life

together.

They spent years in the Mormon Church. She worked in Boy Scouts with the church troop Scout Committee Chairperson for many years and was known to be compassionate, supportive, and unwavering on advancement requirements.

She recognized and was grateful for her time in church and credited its teachings as helping her get to her current spiritual awareness.

Debbie discovered she had a gift for reading a person's energy and started her practice, Life Balance Energy Therapy. This was her chance to help in physical, emotional and spiritual aspects of a person's life. She never took credit for the success she had with her clients, only saying she was the facilitator and anyone could do it.

She was a strong believer in Angels, and said many times they are here and wanting to help us. "Call on the angels" she would say about most any situation she was asked out. Her family took her up on this advice many times and found out for themselves how true this claim is. She said the angels only need an invitation to step in and help, and they want to.

She studied relentlessly and taught us a lot about ourselves. She felt there were no random circumstances in life, but rather they were orchestrated by a higher power. She made us examine ourselves and see if this was indeed true, and made us believers.

Debbie also spoke many times about what she thought happens when people pass from this world saying "they are just fine, it is the remaining loved ones that have all the sadness."

She would want us to celebrate today and be grateful for the blessings we receive, the good things we have, the friendships we enjoy, and the love and acceptance we have for our fellowman.

And she was a beautiful woman.

She is survived by her husband Matt, sons Mike Domigo and Miles Bailey, brothers Ray and David Cochran, sister Nancy Chambers, and many nieces and nephews across the country.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Goes Funeral Care & Crematory created a Tribute Video in memory of Debbie Bailey*



**Goes Funeral Care & Crematory** - July 16, 2021 at 03:04 PM

BG

*Matt, I am so sorry for your loss my friend. I often felt a connection with the two of you because of your special relationship together. I just heard of Debbie's passing and our hearts ache. Thinking of you and the boys. I love you buddy.*

**Bret Guthrie** - July 19, 2021 at 07:50 PM



*Thanks Bret for your kind thoughts. Being married to a Debbie is a good thing. Hope all is good with you and your family. Love you too bro.*

**Matt Bailey** - July 20, 2021 at 12:15 PM

MR

*Matt,*

*It's been quite a while since we roamed the green carpet....Debbie was a keeper. So sorry to learn of your loss....Peace be with you my friend ....It looks like Colorado has been good to you and family*

*Mark Rowell*

**Mark Rowell** - May 08, 2024 at 01:03 PM

BC

*Matt - Was cruising the internet for you and found Debbie. I am SO sorry to find this out. I always enjoyed my time with you and Debbie, and you and I had so much fun together as friends & co-workers. Hope this gets to you somehow. I am now in Florida with my Debbie that I married in 2001. If you see this please touch base with me at 309-644-9812. Msg sent 11/18/2024.*

**Bill Collins** - November 18, 2024 at 03:59 AM



“ *Debbie Bailey*

October 25, 2022 at 06:14 PM

ST

“ *Matt and sons,*

*Sorry for your loss!! Debbie was an awesome woman. Back in the days of living in the neighborhood etc I always liked talking to Debbie, always a straight shooter!*

*Wishing my condolences Matt to you and the boys!*

*Sorry I missed the Celebration of Life, but I no longer live in Fort Collins.*

*God Bless!*

*Steve Jeffs*

**Steve** - July 17, 2021 at 10:19 PM



*Thanks Steve for your nice words about Debbie. She had a high opinion about you and knew you were a good guy. Hope things are good for you in Moab.*

**Matt Bailey** - July 18, 2021 at 11:55 PM

SA

“ Matt, Mike and Miles,

*I am so sorry about Debbie's passing. Debbie is a passionate person that people are just drawn to. The 12-13 year old girls we worked with loved Debbie's fun personality and wanted to be around her. She was a dynamic person with a lot of great ideas and excellent execution of those ideas. She planned fun and engaging activities, with seemingly much ease. I always felt loved around Debbie, probably because she shared a lot of love and interest in others. I remember Debbie would come over to my house and my little girls were mesmerized by her. They loved her earrings, so she would make a point to wear fun jewelry whenever she would come over so my girls could talk with her about it and admire it. Debbie loves everyone and shows interest in everyone no matter their age. Debbie is very organized, a good planner, someone who accomplishes much, yet very relatable and understanding of you. I am a better person because I knew Debbie.*

Sara Olsen

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**Sara** - July 16, 2021 at 12:10 AM



*Thanks for your support Sara. Debbie really enjoyed working with you as well.*

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**Matt Bailey** - July 17, 2021 at 08:32 AM

CC

“ I love Debbie! While here in her temporal body she was full of "vim and vigor", ready to help and serve and I can't help but think that she's continuing with that same energy in heaven!  
I loved working with her in Relief Society! She was a perfect example of a counselor. She was in tune with the Spirit and helped make an organization that reached out and touched many women in the ward. She was aware of who needed help and what needed to be done and would guide those things to happen! And though it all, she remained sincerely happy and cheerful!  
I know how much she loved her family and was so supportive of them. Matt, Mike, and Miles, I pray that you will be comforted and remember the hugs and love she showed you through your adventures. It's wonderful to have an angel like that!  
She is and was a choice friend.

*Carla Child*

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**Carla Child** - July 15, 2021 at 11:21 AM



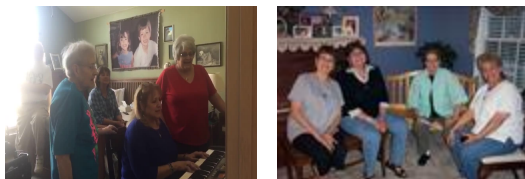
Thank you Carla for your kind words and really appreciate you support.  
Hope you are well

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**Matt Bailey** - July 17, 2021 at 08:34 AM

 Lisa  
Esser

“ 2 files added to the album Memories Album



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**Lisa Esser** - July 15, 2021 at 09:06 AM



*Thanks for coming Lisa and all your support. Sure great to visit with you and Rae. All my best to you and Jake and your family.*

**Matt Bailey** - July 17, 2021 at 08:42 AM

LS

“ *Matt, I'm so sorry to hear of your loss. I love Debbie's gentle strength & can only imagine how hard it will be for you to miss that. I'm sure she's now one of your angels.*

**Lisa Smith** - July 15, 2021 at 08:54 AM



*Hi Lisa and thank you for your note, and yes she is certainly in a better and peaceful place.*

**Matt Bailey** - July 17, 2021 at 08:44 AM

MO

“ *Matt! I'm so sorry for you and your boys! I loved Debbie, and although it's been some time since I saw you all, the fond memories still remain. When we moved into our home, Debbie was the one who came to welcome me. My dad had just passed away unexpectedly and she was comforting and kind. I immediately felt friendship with her. I loved her sense of humor her candidness and her goodness.*

*God bless you as you navigate the upcoming days, weeks and months that lie ahead. She will be missed, but as you said in her obituary, she is doing well.... You are the ones to be left with the aching hearts. May you be comforted to know that many share your grief and hope you feel our prayers to lift your burden.*

*Love,  
Mickie (and Mike) Ortiz*

**Mickie Ortiz** - July 14, 2021 at 02:30 PM



*Thank you Mickie I appreciate your prayers. They work. Hope you and Mike are well.*

**Matt Bailey** - July 17, 2021 at 08:46 AM



“ *Matt and Mike and Miles,  
My heart is tender as I have thought of Debbie and you all constantly since I heard of passing  
What an amazing woman and friend Debbie was.  
We had so much fun working in scouts together. I loved her assertiveness with other leaders to make the best program we could have for the boys. I loved when she went to the “upper management” and say, “yea, this is how we’re going to do it” we made a great team. Our boys were lucky to have us 😊 in scouts with them!!!  
While we hadn’t been in touch as much lately as I’d like- you know, life gets in the way. I’ve always felt her love and friendship for me. I’ll miss running into her at Sprouts and hearing, “Hey Laura’!!! What a lucky girl I am.  
My love to you Matt, what a gift Debbie was to us. While my tears are for missing her, my heart is full of joy for her, her being with loved ones again,  
And the joy of our Savior waiting with loving arms for this choice daughter of God.  
I’m so sorry we won’t be there for you Friday- we are out of the country.  
We’ll get together soon- like next week ❤️  
Love to you all,  
Laura*

**Laura Thompson** - July 14, 2021 at 12:43 PM



*Hi Laura - loved your comments and especially when Debbie put it to the man. Hope to visit with you sometime when you get back.*

**Matt Bailey** - July 17, 2021 at 08:56 AM

BS

“ *Debbie Bailey was a gracious and friendly lady who shared her many talents and gifts with everyone. We knew and loved her during her family's activity in the Timberline ward LDS church. We remember and loved her vivacious sense of humor. She will be missed by all who knew and loved her.*

*Our sincere condolences to Matt, Michael, and Miles ❤️*

*Bob and Carol Smulling*

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**Bob and Carol Smulling** - July 14, 2021 at 09:14 AM



*Thank you Bob and Carol for your friendship. We appreciate your support. Hope you are both well!*

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**Matt Bailey** - July 17, 2021 at 08:57 AM