



## Laura Anne "Rizz" Rizzo-Sierak

June 3, 1975 - April 8, 2025

UTICA – Laura Anne “Rizz” Rizzo-Sierak, age 49, passed away unexpectedly on Tuesday, April 8, 2025, surrounded by her loving children.

Born in Utica on June 3, 1975, Laura was the daughter of the late Joseph A. Rizzo, Jr. and Christine M. “Tina” (Belmont) Rizzo. She spent her childhood in the area and was a graduate of T.R. Proctor High School/Class of 1993.

A woman of great ambition, Laura worked numerous jobs throughout her life—often two at a time—to provide for her family and ensure they never went without. Of all the roles she held, the most meaningful to her was as a home healthcare aide. She loved this work deeply and always went above and beyond for those entrusted to her care.

People will remember Laura as being “funny as all get off.” She never failed to make people laugh or smile. Above all, she was deeply family-oriented, there was nothing she wouldn’t do for the people she loved. Even those who weren’t related to her adored her and often wished they could call her “Mom.” Anyone who met Laura had only beautiful things to say about her. Her loving and kind personality was something you could feel the instance you were in her presence. She savored every moment and wanted to remember it all—taking countless pictures and videos to capture life’s most beautiful memories. A true go-getter, Laura had an incredible ability to bring people together. If

something needed to get done, Laura was the one to call.

Everything Laura planned she “did it big.” She made sure family vacations happened year after year, no matter what—whether it was a quick getaway or a long adventure to Florida or Vermont. She also made every birthday celebration one to remember, always adding her special touch to make it unforgettable.

In her spare time, she enjoyed crocheting with her best friend, Brandy the canine, who was always by her side. She also possessed a green thumb and could rescue any plant from despair! Her greatest accomplishment in life was being a devoted “GiGi” to her precious grandchildren.

A devout Catholic, Laura delighted in sharing prayers with a nun and a pastor at the hospital just prior to her departure to heaven.

Her children will always remember her voice giving sage advice like, “It’s not what you say, it’s how you say it,” or another catch phrase, “You’ll miss me when I’m gone.”

Laura is survived by her daughter and son-in-law, Maranda and Dakota Kinney; son, Frank “Frankie” Sierak; grandchildren Ayden Kinney, Addalynn Kinney, Aryanna Kinney, and Dakota Kinney, Jr.; sister Honor Rizzo; many nieces, nephews; and her best friends, Mary Fiorillo, Chris Mika, and Brandy the dog, who was her closest companion. She was predeceased by Timothy “Tim” Sierak, her longest lifetime friend and father of her children.

Laura’s family would like to extend their gratitude to the Delahunt sisters at Wynn Hospital for their attentive and outstanding care of Laura and her entire family; they went above and beyond when it was most needed.

In honoring Laura's wishes, the family will honor her life privately. Memorial contributions in Laura's honor may be made to the Herkimer Humane Society online at [www.herkimerhumanesociety.org/donate/](http://www.herkimerhumanesociety.org/donate/) or by mail to 514 NY-5S, Mohawk, NY 13407.

Arrangements have been entrusted to the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave.

# Tribute Wall

DC

“ David Cicchelli planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Laura Anne "Rizz" Rizzo-Sierak.

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David Cicchelli - April 30, 2025 at 07:08 AM

MC

“ Laura, I'll always cherish the memories that we had as kids growing up on Boyce Ave, whiffle ball, kick ball, hide n seek, etc. great times. Rest in Peace.

Love,  
Cousin Mike C

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Mike Chambrone - April 28, 2025 at 09:07 AM

DM

“ I'm so sad to hear of this. Rest in peace my dear cousin. I have great memories growing up together in the 70s and 80s with Joey and my brother that I will cherish. 🙏🙏🙏

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Dave Matrulli - April 21, 2025 at 09:27 PM

TM

“ First, to Laura’s children, family, and friends...I am so sorry for your loss. Sadly we had lost contact throughout the years but she was so special to me and the memory of her will always be indelibly marked onto my heart . She was a wonderful, and beautiful person. I am so deeply saddened by this news.

While you may not know me my name is Theresa Mancuso, and my parents, brother and sister lived downstairs from Tina, Laura and Joey on Boyce Ave for years. I did not see Tina, Laura, and Joey regularly as adults but they share some of my most beautiful and important memories.

My mother Rosie taught her how to crochet as a young girl. She and my Mom had a special relationship. Laura looked at her like a grandmother and as a young girl she spent hours on the porch with her learning or playing Pitch. I can still see them sitting there. Like Laura, my Mom died unexpectedly very young at the age of 45 years old. We were all devastated. I will always be thankful to Tina who supported my whole family when my Mother died. She stepped in and shopped, cooked, and comforted, while attempting to help her children to get through a painful loss. Our families were not blood but that did not matter we were family.

If you would have told me that Laura, like my Mom, would also be taken too soon I would not have believed it because foolishly we always think there is enough time to reconnect. I am heartbroken that we did not do better keeping our promise to each other to remain in each others lives.

However so grateful that every time I did see her we would giggle like kids, talking about the past, and our wonderful memories...She never forgot my Mom, and for many years would bring flowers to her grave. Laura was truly a blessing in my life and a connection to so many people I loved. Her Mother who I loved dearly, was amazing, and she raised a beautiful daughter.

*I know Laura has now taken her place in heaven with both of them and I am certain she has received her Angel wings.*

*To Laura please know I love you, and will always think of you fondly. If you are crocheting with my Mom hug her for me and tell your mom I know she is making sauce. Until we meet again.*

*May God comfort all of you through this difficult time.*

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**Theresa Mancuso** - April 12, 2025 at 07:27 AM

BF

“*Berthell Bembry and Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Laura Anne "Rizz" Rizzo-Sierak.*



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**Berthell Bembry and Family** - April 11, 2025 at 03:32 PM