

"My husband was diagnosed with cancer. Then she said she was. My husband passed away. She told me it had been a nightmare the last couple of years," Pat said.

Debbie was the mother of Terry (Phil) Miller of Oxford, Tamie (John) Adragna of Indiana and Sandra (Mike) Moore of Oxford; a special friend of Pat Vogel-Daigle. She is also survived by five grandchildren, sisters-in-law, and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, David and Mary Joss

She was a member of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Orion Township Fire Department.

The funeral service took place May 10 at the LO United Methodist Church. Memorials may be made to the LO Police Association or the Orion Firefighters Association.

Funeral arrangements were made by the Lake Orion Chapel, Sparks-Griffin Funeral Home.

Also:

The Lake Orion Review

May 12, 2004

Wednesday Page: 6

Waldo, Deborah Ann

1 of 4

The Oakland Press

May 8, 2004

Saturday Page: A-13

**WALDO, DEBORAH ANN**; of Oakland Township; May 7, 2004; age 53. Beloved wife of William "Bill"; dear mother of Terry (Phil) Miller of Oxford, Tamie (John) Adragna of IN; and Sandra (Mike) Moore of Oxford; special friend of Pat Bogel-Daigle. Debbie is also survived by 5 grandchildren, sisters-in-law, and many nieces and nephews. Mrs. Waldo was employed by the Village of Lake Orion Police Department where she was a dispatcher for both the Village Police Department, and the Orion Township Fire Department. She was a member of the Ladies Auxillary of the Orion Township Fire Department. Mrs. Waldo was proceeded in death by her parents, David and Mary Joss. Funeral Services Monday at 11 a.m. from the Lake Orion United Methodist Church. Friends may call at the Lake Orion Chapel, **Sparks-Griffin Funeral Home** (248-693-8336) after 7 p.m. Saturday. Visiting hours Saturday from 7 to 9 p.m. and Sunday from 1-5 p.m. Memorials may be made to Lake Orion Police Association, or Orion Firefighters Association.

The Lake Orion Review  
May 12, 2004  
Wednesday Page: 4

**Deborah Waldo**

# Retired village dispatcher dies at 53

Many of Deborah Ann Waldo's friends believe she wanted to make it to her 53rd birthday. And she did. Debbie died on May 7, 2004 after a two year struggle with cancer

Debbie was a Lake Orion Police dispatcher for 30 years, retiring in 2002. She couldn't stay away and returned to the dispatch office as a part-time clerk before leaving again because of her illness.



LO Police Chief Jerry Narsh worked with Debbie for 23 years. "I had the privilege and honor of not only working with Deb, but also experiencing her level of friendship," he said.

"Deb Waldo lived, worked and played at a level of intensity that few of us can match."

Narsh described her as defining the dispatch center. "Her personality and her talent are exactly what a 911 dispatcher requires," he added.

"The men and women of this department and people of this community are so incredibly fortunate to have been blessed by Deb Waldo at the helm of our dispatch center. She will be missed."

Former police chief Jim Leach described Debbie as a perfectionist and he used her to train all the people who worked in the dispatch department over the years.

"Things had to be right. She loved her job. She was a concerned person She always worried about our patrols and the fire department when they were on a call. Many times she had the choice of going to Oakland County; she stayed with the village," Leach added.

But it wasn't all work for Debbie. According to Leach, she loved to gamble and made numerous trips to casinos.

Retired dispatcher Pat Fry was one of those trained by Debbie in 1975. What started out as a working relationship developed into a best friend relationship.

"We did a lot of things involving the police department. We were a tight group," she added.

Debbie started dating her husband Bill in the late 1970s. He was active in the LO Lions Club and Debbie quickly became involved with the club.

Pat was Debbie's maid-of-honor and helped plan the wedding. She remembers sitting at work making flowers to put on all the cars in the wedding.

The two women grew even closer over the last couple of years.