

NORTH GREENBUSH SAYS GOODBYE TO AN ANGEL

There was a time when I didn't believe in Angels, but that all changed soon after I met Pamela Rockwell. On my way to work one morning, I stopped in Stewarts on Main Avenue in Wynantskill. I was in a rush and a little grumpy because I was late for a meeting, when Pam approached me and said, "Hi I'm Pam, What's your name?" She put a smile on my face and while I got my coffee I listened to her and Eddie "go at it" about what Pam's next chore would be. I joined in the debate on Pam's side and left Stewarts that day feeling better than when I had arrived.

As years went by, my wife Deb, and I, became close friends with Pam. We were drawn to her because she always made us feel good. Whether at Stewarts where she worked, playing bocce at the Town celebration, or standing with Pam and her Dad to watch the Memorial Day Parade, when we were with Pam, we felt her love and she made our day much brighter. She was forever sticking up for me with Deb and others, and I always knew that I could count on her to do something nice for me.

You see, Pamela Rockwell was one of those special-needs people who although challenged in some areas of her life, when it came to important attributes that we all aspire to possess like courage, unconditional love, and kindness, she left us all far behind. As all Angels do, Pam did nice things for people without expecting anything in return, she gave just to give, and she enhanced everyone's life that she came in contact with.

So it was a very sad day on May 22nd when I heard of Pam's passing. My heart broke for her parents Charlie and Donna who had parented her like no other could. My heart broke for her family, for our community, and for me, as I realized my Angel was gone.

While it's true that North Greenbush will never be the same, how fortunate we all were to have this Angel with us for as long as we did. Pamela Rockwell blessed North Greenbush with her grace; she changed our Town, and will be forever remembered by all who were lucky enough to know her.

I Love you Pam.

~Lou Desso, North Greenbush Councilman