



Nicole Avalon Sacco

March 30, 1978 - November 25, 2024

Nicole A. (O'Donahoe) Sacco, age 46, passed away unexpectedly in her sleep in Sarasota, FL on November 25, 2024. Nicole entered this world on March 30, 1978 as a preemie, but from that moment on, nothing about her life could be considered small ever again. She made up for those early beginnings in a way that would define her entire life - by living largely and with an energy that was boundless.

Nicole grew up in Altoona, WI where she attended school before following in her father's (former longtime Altoona Police Chief David O'Donahoe) footsteps by enrolling at Regis High School. Nicole's astute athleticism and beautiful personality began to shine and she became a star athlete in tennis, basketball and softball; showing the same passion and drive in sports as she did in life. She helped lead her tennis and basketball teams to multiple state trips while earning many individual accolades along the way. She went from the athletic court to the court of royalty as a Triple Crown Queen: Homecoming, Prom and Winter Carnival. A testament not only to her beauty but to her magnetic personality that made everyone around her feel special. Nicole attended UW-Eau Claire and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Mass Communication and Art History.

Nicole's early years were just the beginning of the legacy she would leave behind - a legacy built with love, passion and a commitment to living life to the fullest. It's difficult to put into words the depth of her impact on those who knew her, but one thing is certain: to know Nicole was to know she was a light not to be contained. Nicole was the person you turned to, in your best times, in your worst times or when you were looking for adventure. As a lifelong friend or someone she just met, Nicole made sure you felt important. She had a stunning smile and her laughter was often the soundtrack to the happiest memories we have of her. Her zest for life was undeniable, and she proved that those who identify as a blonde truly might have more fun!

Nicole met her husband of 12 years, John Sacco, in Boston. Their life together was nothing short of a whirlwind from the moment they married in Las Vegas on Cinco de Mayo at the Flamingo Hotel. Nicole loved and deemed it as a twist of fate that John's parents and her parents shared the same first names! Nicole quickly became a passionate Boston sports fan, often appearing on the jumbotron and having a memorable zamboni ride at a Bruins game with her contagious smile lighting up the arena. John and Nicole

shared a deep appreciation for live music, attending countless concerts of their favorite bands. They also enjoyed traveling, whether by cruise ship, airplane, convertible or golf cart. They renewed their vows on their 10 year anniversary, officiated by an Elvis impersonator. After settling at Sun Outdoors (Sun 'N Fun), they became pillars of the community, known for fostering togetherness with their generosity. Wherever they lived or vacationed, they became famous for hosting parties and feasts that attracted guests from all over, with Nicole always being the ultimate hostess!

Nicole's kindness, creativity and athleticism were limitless! She had a passion for cooking, sewing, painting, gardening, decorating and tackling any project that came her way. Her hand crafted Kentucky Derby hats won prizes, Christmas decorations were exceptional, Halloween decorations and costumes were frighteningly amazing and St. Patrick's Day was celebrated with style. Much to the delight of others, her beloved fur babies Vito and Vegas were also dressed up for the holiday occasion. Nicole was also a dominant force on the pickleball court winning countless medals while forging strong friendships with her fellow players. Though her athletic pursuits extended beyond pickleball, her greatest talent was her exceptional ability to create unforgettable moments for her friends!

Nicole's spirit will continue to inspire and shine brightly in the hearts of those who knew her and loved her. She was a rare and beautiful soul whose source of light will never be forgotten. Let us remember to live as she did - brightly, fearlessly and with all the love we have to offer.

Nicole is preceded in death by her parents David and JoAnne (Carr) O'Donahoe, father-in-law David M. Sacco, sister-in-law Candee Sacco, grandniece Aubrey Taylor and her fur baby Brewski.

Nicole is survived by her loving husband John Sacco. Sisters Pamela Meredith (sp. Richard Meredith and children Lakken and Kameri) and Heather Chillemi (sp. Jeremy Chillemi and children Delaney and Kaden). Mother-in-law Joann Sacco, Sisters-in-law Lynn Taylor (sp. David Taylor and children Dereck, Maranda, Evan, Samuel, Arianna and grandchildren Giuliana, David, Mason, Mia and Isabella), Jennifer Sacco (daughter Saydee), Makayla McCarthy and Riley McCarthy. Brother-in-law Anthony Sacco (daughter Alessandra) and her fur babies Vegas and Vito.

Friends and family can join us as we remember Nicole with a Celebration of Life on May 3, 2025 at Wild Ridge Golf and Event Center from 1--5pm. Wild Ridge is located at 3647 Kane Rd. Eau Claire, WI 54703.

Time will be set aside at 2:30 for a prayer and for friends and family to share a eulogy, elegy or favorite memory.

In lieu of flowers, the family prefers memorials in Nicole's honor for an annual legacy scholarship and the celebration. Condolences and memorials can be sent in c/o Pamela Meredith at P.O. Box 36 Colfax, WI 54730.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

MAY 3. 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM (CT)

Wild Ridge Golf and Event Center
3647 Kane Road
Eau Claire, WI 54703

DM

“ We are so very blessed to have had Nicole in our life.
We love you always.
Donna & Kevin



Donna & Kevin Murphy - December 17, 2024 at 06:38 PM

MB

“ I loved my vacations visiting Nicole in Boston and in Sarasota. She sure made all who were around her feel so welcomed and wanted to make sure everyone was having a great vacation. She has left a huge while in our hearts!💕💕

Michelle Benson - December 16, 2024 at 06:59 PM