



Robert A. "Bob" Barcomb

Robert A. "Bob" Barcomb, 51, of Verona died July 4, 2010, after he lost control of his motorcycle on Beaver Creek Road in Sangerfield. The Verona man who died in a Sangerfield motorcycle accident Sunday was just weeks away from watching his son get married. Now, his family faces the difficult task of attending a funeral one weekend and a wedding the next, a relative said Tuesday. Bob and a group of other motorcyclists were riding on Beaver Creek Road in Sangerfield at about 12:15 p.m. Sunday when Barcomb lost control on a sharp curve and was tossed from his motorcycle, state police Troop D. Capt. Frank Coots said Tuesday. He later was pronounced dead at St. Elizabeth Medical Center, Coots said. Lisa Barcomb said she had asked her husband not to ride his motorcycle until after their son's July 17 wedding on Cape Cod, but agreed to let him go "just for a little while" Sunday because he was feeling cooped up. The Onondaga County Resource Recovery Agency employee loved riding, and the distraction it provided had helped him cope with a cancer diagnosis two years earlier. "His comment was always that it made him feel free when he rode his motorcycle," she said. Barcomb, who graduated from Oneida High School in 1977, began riding motorcycles at 17. He owned both a Harley and the Suzuki "rocket" that he was riding the day of the accident, she said. He also was a member of the 315 Riders and the Harley Owners Group (HOG). While inexperience wasn't a factor in the accident, Coots said that a lack of familiarity with the road might have been. Barcomb was traveling too fast when he entered the curve, and his motorcycle left the shoulder of the roadway as a result. He was wearing a helmet at the time, and alcohol did not appear to be a factor, state police said. "I think he was enjoying himself with a group of friends, and speed coupled with a number of other factors came together to cause the accident," Coots said. "It truly was a tragic accident." Lisa Barcomb said her husband had been riding with his brother-in-law Brian Bassett of Oneida earlier that day. But Bassett had gone home prior to the accident. "That was the only person I really truly wanted him ever riding with," she said. "Those two were inseparable. They were like my boys, like twins." The death was the fifth loss Barcomb's family has experienced in just two years, Three individuals -- his father, Robert F. Barcomb, his brother Alexander P. Barcomb, and his brother Carl Barcomb's sister-in-law Laura Gribneau - all died within a few months of each other in 2008. Despite the most recent tragedy, the family has chosen to move forward with plans for David Barcomb to marry his fiancée, Gabrielle Stowell, in just under two weeks, Lisa Barcomb said. "My husband would be rattling around in the grave if we didn't," she said. "He loved his boys the most in the world. They were everything to him."

David Barcomb lives in Manhattan, and his twin brother Anthony Barcomb lives in Liverpool, according to an obituary from the Campbell-Dean Funeral Home in Oneida. Barcomb also is survived by his mother, Arlene Barcomb of Oneida, and by eight brothers and sisters. Lisa Barcomb said her husband enjoyed life and liked making people laugh as much as possible. "I loved him very, very much," she said. "He was my best friend, and I don't know what I'm going to do without him. I really don't."

