

Victim impact statement of Marlene Barrera

Arty is our first born son. Arty is the older brother to both Tanner and Tristan. Arty is my mom's third grandchild.

Arty is a friend to all these people here today.

Arty helped teach his brothers how to walk, ride a bike, skateboard and snowboard. Arty was their role model.

We are ALL the victims and I speak for them all. In this courtroom, Arty has become nothing more than a name. I believe people forget he was a person.

Arty had decades more life to live before you conspired to rob and murder him.

Arty had a kind soul. To know him, was to love him. He would never hurt a person.

Leonard, you conspired to rob Arty using loaded guns. You planned everything. Without you, there is no murder. You are the reason he is dead. Then and now, you don't appear to have any remorse for your actions.

You had over a year to come clean. To go to the police and tell the story you claim to be true. But you didn't and instead watched us on the news and social media begging for information and you watched without any remorse.

Now, after nearly four years, I still don't believe you feel any remorse for killing my son. When thinking about a victim impact statement, we can't stop at just you, but the statements of the people, your family, who come here to support you.

Heinous comments on social media like, and I quote "...this could be considered a good deed..." Lies stating "Arty had guns in his home." Lilly Russo, Sunshine Dee and the fabricated Tricia New posting sensitive evidence and videos from this case. You and your family have not shown a bit of acknowledgment for your actions even though the evidence and your statement prove your guilt.

Nothing we do will ever bring our son, brother, grandson and friend back to us. We grieve every day and our lives will never be the same. My health deteriorated. Arty's father's business suffered.

You killed our son whether it was premeditated or not. You may not have pulled the trigger, but you planned the whole thing and you deserve to pay more than this plea bargain. I will never see my son again and I don't think you should ever get to see yours. We no longer have happy lives. Anything happy or worth celebrating is always tainted with Arty not being here. I will always carry the pain in my stomach and hole in my heart. Not a day goes by without that.

I hope you think about this every night when you go to sleep in prison. I pray you get the justice you deserve even if this sentence today in court allows you to walk free one day.

I pray Arty's face is the last image in your mind when you close your eyes and the first when you wake. Arty was real and because of you, he is dead.