

# Profiles of Hope

---



Jeanne Farrelly and her siblings were raised in a two-parent household in the affluent community of Sparta. Unlike many of their neighbors, the Farrelly family lived in poverty; Jeanne recalls frequent periods without electricity or heat in their home. Jeanne’s father was an abusive alcoholic, who regularly beat Jeanne, her siblings and her mother. Jeanne’s predominant memories of herself during childhood are clouded with feelings of worthlessness and insignificance. She recalls having no dreams, particular talents or noteworthy skills. She attempted to go to college on three separate occasions, but had no motivation to continue and quit.

As an adult, Jeanne gravitated towards men like her father. She married an abuser and perpetuated the cycle of domestic violence. Only when she noticed her son developing traits similar to his father and grandfather did Jeanne muster up the courage to step out on her own. She called Project Self-Sufficiency and started a new chapter in her life.

Jeanne worked tirelessly to develop her skills, enrolling in computer classes, career training courses and legal assistance workshops. She moved herself and her two sons into a one-bedroom apartment and applied for public assistance. Once again, she enrolled in college, and this time, it stuck. Jeanne graduated from Sussex County Community College with a 4.0 and subsequently received a Bachelor’s Degree with high honors. Jeanne is now employed as a digital content producer for a worldwide hotel corporation. Her two sons were appointed to and graduated with distinction from the United States Air Force Academy. They are both commissioned officers in the United States Air Force. Both are also happily married; Jeanne is now a grandmother. She enjoys traveling, biking, hiking and running, and is in a healthy, long-term relationship.

“Time passes, scars fade, healing happens. I am now transformed; I have dreams, talents and skills. That is success.”

**Jeanne Farrelly**

**57**

**2 children**

---

*Jeanne Farrelly*

---