



When you lived your life for others
 and you loved *without condition*
 When you made so many laugh and your
smile won't be forgotten
 When you left behind an empty place
 that no one else can fill
 When the friendships that you shared
 long to be renewed
 When you built your life on hope
 and fulfilled it every day
 The *footprints* that you left behind
 will bring us face to face
 So, *goodbye* is not forever,
 You're only steps away.



In Loving Memory Of

Rita Ann Schwan

March 27, 1944 - December 9, 2023



Rita Ann Schwan was born March 27, 1944, in Rugby, ND, to Frederick and Anne (Gerger) Geisinger. Rita spent her childhood years on the family farm with her parents and three siblings: Patricia, Paulette, and Stephen. In 1959 the family moved to Minot, ND. Rita attended Bishop Ryan High School and graduated in 1962.

In November 1962, Rita met Gerald Schwan of Minot. On September 14, 1963, they were united in marriage at Our Lady of Grace Church in Minot. To that union four children were born - Brent, Susan (Lynch), Gary, and Brian. Rita worked at St. Joseph's Hospital until the family moved to Williston.

In April of 1970, the family made the move to Williston where she would spend the rest of her life. Rita was a stay-at-home mom until going to work for Manger Insurance in 1973. She worked for Manger's for 40 years before semi-retiring in 2014. For many years in that timeframe Rita also managed the Bingo Barn in Williston. She made many great friends at the Bingo Barn.

Retirement didn't mean relaxation for Rita. She continued many hours volunteering for various organizations. In the mid-80's, Rita and Jerry Wells founded the Williston Wrestling Club. She, along with many, many volunteers spent countless hours through the years developing and growing the club. Rita was also a prominent volunteer at Mercy Hospital, was a Past Regent of the Women of the Moose, and just in November of this year she was named Volunteer of the Month at the Williston Senior Center. She spent many more hours assisting other organizations and individuals. One thing Rita could never say to people in need of assistance was "No".

Rita's greatest passion in life was her family, especially her grandchildren and great grandchildren. Nothing brought her greater joy than that precious time with them.

On December 9, 2023, The Lord called Rita to be with him. She passed away peacefully at home.

She was preceded in death by her father, Frederick; her mother, Anne; grandson, Michael and grandson, Jared. She is survived by sister, Patricia Nygaard (Dennis); sister, Paulette Gonzalez (Tony); brother, Stephen; her significant other, Gerald; son, Brent (Marella); daughter, Susan Lynch (Derek); son, Gary (Sara Solberg); son, Brian (April). She has seven surviving grandchildren, Shelly Norbeck (Keith), Samantha Kienholz (Kyle), Riley Lynch, Nicholas Ladwig (Melinda), Shane Miller (Meridith), Sherri Hamers, and Brianna Schwan. She also had eight great-grandchildren, Natalie Norbeck, Jacob Norbeck soon - baby Norbeck, Kooper Kienholz, Kendall Kienholz, Maci Jo Ladwig, Hollis Hamers, Scarlett Hamers.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to or volunteer in Rita's name to your favorite charity.

In Loving Memory of Rita Ann Schwan

Born to Fredrick & Anne Geisinger

March 27, 1944 ~ Rugby, North Dakota

Called Home to Her Heavenly Father

December 9, 2023 ~ Williston, North Dakota

Funeral Mass

Monday, December 18, 2023 ~ 11:00 AM

St. Joseph's Catholic Church

Williston, North Dakota

Officiating

Father Paul Eberle

Eulogists

Nicolas Ladwig Samantha Kienholz

Music

"How Great Thou Art"

"I Will Walk in the Presence of the Lord"

"Ave Maria" "Here I Am, Lord"

"Jesus, Remember Me" "Amazing Grace"

Stephanie Hunter ~ Musician

Readers

Lorie Kilbourn Rhonda Evanoff

"Philippians 1: 21-23" "Romans 6: 3-9" "John 14: 1-6"

Pallbearers

Keith Norbeck Kyle Kienholz Nick Ladwig
Garrett Solberg Shane Miller Derek Lynch Donovan Nygaard

Honorary Pallbearers

All of Rita's Grandchildren & Great Grandchildren

Gift Bearers

Natalie Norbeck Jacob Norbeck

Brianna Schwan Riley Lynch

Final Resting Place

Riverview Cemetery ~ Williston, North Dakota

Arrangements By

Fulkerson Stevenson Funeral Home ~ Williston, North Dakota