

Diane Marie (Westphal) Knake was born on February 25, 1948, to Leonard and Mary (Semrau) Westphal in Yellow Medicine County, Granite Falls, Minnesota. She grew up in Atwater and the Kerkhoven area where she attended grade school and high school. When Diane found the love of her life, Les Knake, they dated for six months before marrying on June 10, 1966, at the Salem Lutheran Church in Comfrey, Minnesota. The couple began their married life in Springfield for a short time and then Sleepy Eye, Minnesota. Six years and two children later, the family moved to Long Prairie. Les and Diane worked together raising dairy cattle, hogs, sheep and beef cattle. They also specialized in raising quarter horses.

Diane worked outside the home and farm, including Griff's Pizza, Geno's and Drevlow's Laundry. She also cared for elderly people and small children. In her younger years, Diane loved gardening and making meals for her family, especially the holidays. Later, her failing eyesight did not stop her from doing her horse chores. She loved all the comments she would get from people when they told her she had such beautiful horses. It made her day. She will be deeply missed by her family and friends.

Diane passed away at her home surrounded by her family in rural Long Prairie on Saturday morning, June 18, 2022, at the age of 74. Diane is survived by her two children, Lisa (Todd) Gorackowski of Staples, and Liana (Elroy) Georges Jr. of Lake George, Minnesota; grandchildren Cody and Amanda Georges and Tyler Gorackowski; two great-grandchildren, Piston Georges and Adlynn Dukowitz. She is preceded in death by her husband, Les, parents, Leonard and Mary Westphal, and an infant brother; and brother, Roy Westphal; and sister, Delores Bjork.

I'm Free

*Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free,
I'm following the path God laid for me.
I took his hand when I heard his call,
I turned my back and left it all.*

*I could not stay another day,
To laugh, to love, to work, to play.
Tasks left undone must stay that way,
I've found that peace at the close of the day.*

*If my parting has left a void,
Then fill it with remembered joy.
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,
Ah yes, these things I too will miss.
Be not burdened with times of sorrow,
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.
My Life's been full, I savoured much,
Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch,
Perhaps my time seemed all too brief,
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.
Lift up your heart and share with me,
God wanted me now, He set me free.*

In Memory of

Diane M. Knake

February 25, 1948



June 18, 2022

Funeral Service
Roy-Hetland Funeral Home
Osakis, Minnesota
Friday, June 24, 2022
2:30 PM



Officiant

Pastor John Taplin

Casket Bearers

Jerid Aulwes

Allan Middendorf

Amanda Georges

Peter Erickson

Cody Georges

Tyler Gorackowski

Honorary Casket Bearers

Jen Dukowitz

Eric Kreemer

Mike Streeter

Neil Mueller

Harvey Nerness

Kenny Wetzel

Mitchell Marqus

Roland Ottomoeller

Roger Van Havermaet

Interment

Gordon Pleasant Hill Cemetery
Osakis, Minnesota