

Janelle was born on September 23, 1955, in Grand Forks, ND to Gaylord "Bud" and Betty (Dau) Anderson. She grew up in Gilby, ND and graduated from Midway High School in 1973. Following high school she attended Lake Region Junior College.

After marrying on June 18, 1977, Janelle and Randy moved to Grand Forks in 1979 to work and raise their family. Janelle stayed home with her sons while they were young before returning to a career in the Grand Forks Public Schools until her retirement in 2013. In 1987, Janelle and Randy bought a lake home on South Twin Lake near Naytahwaush, Minnesota, where they made memories every summer until 2017. She served on the Board of Directors of the Pinehurst Association. The door to the cabin was always open for friends and family.

In late 2017, Janelle and Randy bought their retirement home on Lake Latoka in Alexandria, MN in order to be closer to their children and grandchildren and enjoy Minnesota summers on the water.

Janelle had a big heart and cared deeply for her friends and family. Her courageous spirit - on full display over the last year - sense of humor, generosity, quick smile, and warm hugs will never be replaced.

Janelle's life was filled with love for her family and friends. Janelle continually looked forward to seeing her family, her grandchildren, spending time at the lake, going for walks, meeting her friends for cards and bonfires and traveling with her husband Randy. Even during the final months of her life she travelled to the Florida Keys with her entire family to celebrate and explore.

Janelle passed peacefully on Tuesday, January 29, 2019, at her home in Alexandria at the age of 63. She is lovingly remembered by her husband of 41 years, Randy Eken of Alexandria, MN, her sons, Aaron (Sara) Eken, their children, Calvin (5), Gabrielle (2) of White Bear Township, MN; Joshua (Molly) Eken and their children, Lily (9), Claire (7), Hazel (5), and Ruby (3) of Alexandria, MN; her mother, Betty Anderson of Grand Forks, ND, her brother, Daniel Anderson of Grand Forks, ND, her sister, Joan (Anderson) McMahon of Larimore, ND, and many nieces, nephews, in-laws, and friends. Janelle was preceded in death by her father, Gaylord "Bud" Anderson.

Memorials preferred to: Hope Lodge in Rochester. <https://www.cancer.org/treatment/support-programs-and-services/patient-lodging/hope-lodge/rochester-mn/about-our-facility.html>

In Loving Memory



Janelle S. Eken

1955 - 2019

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

Janelle S. Eken

September 23, 1955



January 29, 2019



Memorial Service

Calvary Lutheran Church
Grand Forks, North Dakota
Saturday, February 2, 2019
11:00 AM

Officiant

Reverend Kirk Meseck

Organist

Sara Bloom

Soloist

Danny Moffitt
Keith Francis

Honorary Urn Bearers

(Janelle's Grandchildren)
Lily, Claire, Hazel, Calvin, Ruby, and Gabrielle