

## Safely Home

I am home in Heaven dear ones; Oh, so happy and bright! There is perfect joy and beauty In this everlasting light, All pain and grief is over Every restless tossing passed; I am now at peace forever. Safely home in Heaven at last, There is work still waiting for you, So you must not idly stand, Do it now, while life remaineth-You shall rest in Jesus' land, When that work is all completed, He will gently call you Home; Oh, the rapture of that meeting, Oh the joy to see you come!





DeAnna Marie Smith, 48, passed away guietly surrounded by her family at CHI St. Alexius Health on September 16, 2018 after a courageous fight with cancer.

DeAnna Marie was born to Jack and Pat (Patton) McKusick on February 4, 1970 and was raised in Big Lake Minnesota on the Sherburne Wildlife Refuge. She was always a bit of a tomboy and loved the outdoors. She could be found playing sports with her older brother and his friends, running with her dog Brownie, or racing around the yard in her go cart, which did result in one broken fence.

She attended Big Lake High School where she competed in gymnastics and was captain of the cheerleading squad. She graduated on 1988 and went on to attend St. Cloud Business College and John Casablanca Modeling School.

In 1991, while working the front desk at the Registry Hotel in Bloomington, she met a Firefighter Training Instructor by the name of Jesse Smith who was there for the Minnesota State Fire School. They immediately hit it off and after several trips to Minnesota for Jesse, they got engaged. DeAnna and Jesse were married on May 21, 1993 and made their home in Bismarck, ND. Together they had 3 children, Matt, Rachel and Allison. Sadly Rachel passed away from a birth defect 2 days after she was born.

DeAnna was a stay at home mom and loved raising her kids. She also helped out on the family ranch which she and Jesse purchased when they moved south of Mandan. DeAnna loved gardening, decorating her home and working with the animals when Jesse was away on shift for the Bismarck Fire Department. She was a force to be reckoned with on a four wheeler chasing cattle and worked side by side with Jesse to make sure that this 4<sup>th</sup> generation ranch made it to the 5<sup>th</sup> generation.

In November of 2014 DeAnna went to work for Bismarck State College as the Administrative Assistant for the Allied Health Medical Arts and Emergency Services Programs. She loved her job and the students who often referred to her as their mother hen because of the way she watched over them. She continued to work for BSC until her passing.

DeAnna will be deeply missed by her husband Jesse; her children, Matt and Allison; her parents, Jack and Pat McKusick; her brother, John (Michelle) McKusick; her sister, Cindy (Jason) Dupont; her grandfather, Dave Hoagland; and all her uncles, aunts, nieces, nephews and her extended family of students and first responders.

She is preceded in death by her daughter, Rachel; her Grandma Hoagland; her Grandpa McKusick; her Grandpa and Grandma Patton; and her father-in-law and mother-in-law, Robert and Anne Smith.

Following the service the family invites you for lunch and fellowship in the Spirit of Life Fellowship Hall. In Loving Memory Of

# De Anna Marie Smith

February 4, 1970 — September 16, 2018

Parish Rosary/Vigil Thursday, September 20, 2018; 7:00 p.m. Weigel Funeral Home Presider **Deacon Gary Mizeur** Vigil Musicians **Judy Friesz & Jess Friesz Funeral Liturgy** Friday, September 21, 2018; 10:30 a.m. Church **Spirit of Life Catholic Church** Celebrant Msgr. Chad Gion Concelebrant **Rev. Todd Kreitinger** Musicians Judy Friesz, Jess Friesz & Janelle Thomas Alter Servers Haylee Hepper Prelude "Be Not Afraid" **Opening Song** "Amazing Grace" Liturgy of the Word Wisdom 3:1-6.9 Old Testament Reading Katie Stensgard Lector Psalm 25 Responsorial Psalm "To You, O Lord, I lift my soul." 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 **New Testament Reading** Sarah Heinrich Lector Gospel Reading John 14:1-6 Homily **Liturgy of the Eucharist** Preparation of Gifts Song "You Are Mine" Presentation of Gifts

Consecration of Eucharist **Communion Songs** "On Eagle's Wings" & "Hail Mary, Gentle Woman" Final Commendation "Song of Farewell"

**Closing Song** "How Great Thou Art"

## **Casket Bearers**

Tommy Weinberger ~ Aaron Furchner ~ Andrew Croteau Callen Clarys ~ Casey Rogstad ~ Randy Mattson

### Gift Bearers

Jessica Gustin ~ Michelle Kaufman ~ Destiny Smith ~ Hope Smith

Interment

St. John's Cemetery Rural Mandan, North Dakota