

Celebrating the Life of Marla Miller

FUNERAL SERVICE

Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church - Hancock, Minnesota
Thursday, December 7, 2023 at 10:30 a.m.

OFFICIATING CLERGY

Reverend Heather E. Klason

READERS

Cami Peterson-DeVries & Jeanette White

FAMILY REMEMBRANCES

Justin Miller

ORGANIST

Sandy Pahl

SPECIAL MUSIC

Maurine Nelson
"My Jesus, I Love Thee"

PALLBEARERS

Phil Millette, Ross Haugen, Jeff Rasmusson
Cory Marquart, Eric Zeltwanger, Matt Nesvig

HONORARY PALLBEARERS

All of Marla's Cousins
Nieces & Nephews

INTERMENT

Lakeside Cemetery
Hancock, Minnesota



Guestbook QR Code



Tribute Video QR Code

Pedersen
Funeral & Cremation Service

In Loving
M E M O R Y



Marla Miller

July 20, 1970 - December 3, 2023

I lift up my eyes to the hills -
from where will my help come?
My help comes from the Lord,
who made **HEAVEN AND EARTH**.
He will not let your foot be moved;
He who keeps you will not slumber.
He who keeps Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.
The **LORD IS YOUR KEEPER**;
The Lord is your shade at your right hand.
The sun shall not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.
The Lord will **KEEP YOU** from all evil;
He will keep your life.
The Lord will keep
Your going out and your coming in
from this time on and forevermore.
- Psalm 121



Marla Ann Miller was born on July 20, 1970, in Hettinger, North Dakota, to parents Daryl and Sandy (Dix) Johnson. Marla and her twin sister, Carla, were born premature and were baptized at the hospital. She lived with her family in Lemmon, South Dakota, for a few years until they bought a farm and moved to McIntosh, Minnesota. Marla grew up on the family farm, was confirmed at Mt. Carmel Free Lutheran Church and graduated from Win-E-Mac High School in 1989. After high school, Marla spent the summer in Brazil on an AFLC Team Mission trip and then attended Lutheran Brethren Bible College in Fergus Falls, graduating with a certificate in Biblical Studies in 1990. She began her pre-nursing studies, and it was at this time that she met Julius Miller, while he was attending Lutheran Brethren Seminary in Fergus Falls. They were married on June 12, 1993, and began their married lives in Federal Way, Washington, where Julius served as Pastor at Living Word Lutheran Brethren Church. In 1997, Marla graduated from Bates Technical College in Tacoma, Washington, as an LPN. In 1999, they moved to Hancock, Minnesota, where Julius has served as Pastor of Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church. Marla went on to become an RN, attaining her BSN Degree from Minnesota State University in Moorhead. In her working career, Marla worked in

pediatrics, long-term care, public health, school nurse, and was doing Quality Improvement Grant work with St. Francis Health Services of Morris when she was diagnosed with Stage 4 Rectal Cancer in April of 2022.

Marla was an active member of Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church, serving with the women's circle, the library committee, and teaching Sunday school and VBS. She enjoyed cooking and baking, a



talent that has been passed down to her daughter, Nadine. She was always willing to play a game with her family, but she was very competitive, no matter what they were playing – cards, trivia, or games – she loved to win! In her earlier years, Marla was involved in 4-H; she loved animals and growing up on the farm. She loved nature, taking in the beautiful landscapes of local trails, the Badlands, and others near and far. She cherished their road trips to see family in some capacity and the fun that they had along the way, including in: Washington, California, South Dakota, and New York City.



Most importantly, Marla wanted it known that her greatest joy in life was that of being a mother to Justin and Nadine. She was their biggest supporter. Marla lived her life caring for others, her vocation in Nursing was her calling and a way to be an advocate for everyone that she had the pleasure of knowing over the years.

Marla wanted it known that she felt there was so much more she had left to do and that cancer took that away from her. As a very young child, Marla came to faith trusting the Lord and continued to trust in the forgiveness and redemptive power of the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus; and although her life was cut short due to cancer, she left entrusting her loved ones and herself to Jesus, and looked forward to healing and heaven.



Marla went home to her Savior on Sunday, December 3, 2023. She was 53 years old. Marla was a wife, mom, daughter, granddaughter, sister, cousin, aunt, niece, friend, and patient advocate, and will be deeply missed by those who knew her.

Marla is survived by her husband, Julius of Hancock; son, Justin (Brooke) Miller of Hancock; daughter, Nadine Miller of Hancock; father, Daryl Johnson of McIntosh; mother, Sandy Johnson of Fergus Falls; twin sister, Carla (Scot) Rownd of Fergus Falls; brother, Ryan (Becky) Johnson of McIntosh; sisters-in-law: Vera (Karl) Johnson of Lawrenceville, Georgia, and Marilyn Newby of Pune, India; niece and nephews: Chris (Jayde) Kunz, Natasha Salsbery, Cody Johnson, and Austin Johnson. She is also survived by many aunts, uncles, and cousins. Marla is preceded in death by her dear friend and Julius' aunt, Pamela Smith; mother-in-law, Iris Miller; brother-in-law, Russel Newby; maternal grandparents: Burkie and Jeanette Dix; and paternal grandparents: Henry and Eva Johnson.



AND THIS IS THE TESTIMONY: GOD HAS GIVEN US ETERNAL LIFE,
AND THIS LIFE IS IN HIS SON. 1 JOHN 5:11