

IF TEARS COULD BUILD A STAIRWAY

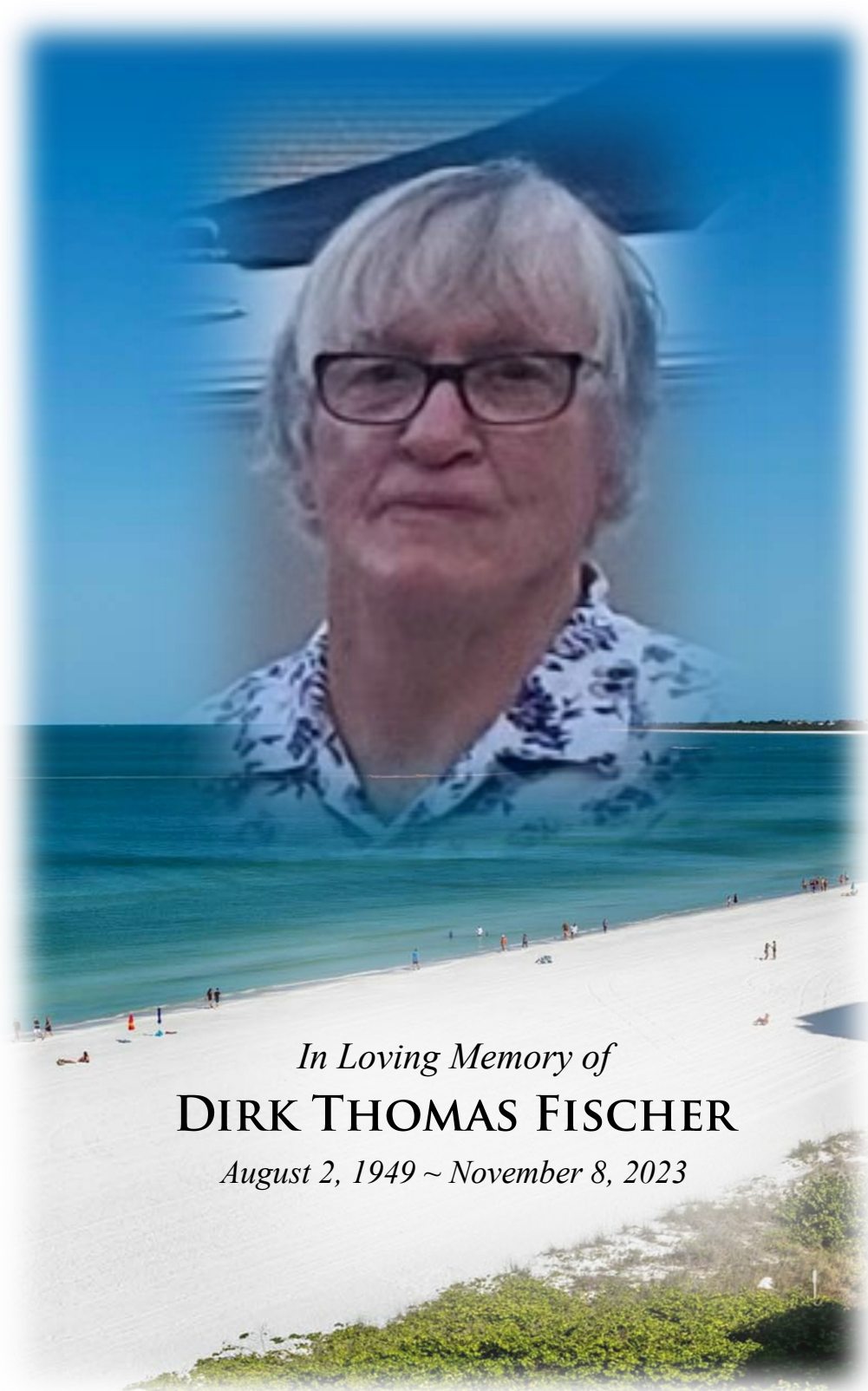
*If tears could build a stairway,
and memories a lane,
I would walk right up to heaven and
bring you home again.*

*No farewell words were spoken,
No time to say "Goodbye".
You were gone before I knew it,
And only God knows why.*

*My heart still aches with sadness,
And secret tears still flow.
What it meant to love you -
No one can ever know.*

*But now I know you want me
To mourn for you no more;
To remember all the happy times
Life still has much in store.*

*Since you'll never be forgotten,
I pledge to you today ~
A hollowed place within my heart
Is where you'll always stay.*



In Loving Memory of
DIRK THOMAS FISCHER

August 2, 1949 ~ November 8, 2023

In Loving Memory of
Dirk Thomas Fischer
August 2, 1949 ~ November 8, 2023

Rosary/Vigil Service

Sunday, November 19, 2023 ▪ 5:00 PM
Parkway Funeral Service ▪ 2330 Tyler Parkway
Bismarck, North Dakota

Mass of Christian Burial

Monday, November 20, 2023 ▪ 11:00 AM
Church of St. Anne ▪ 1321 Braman Ave
Bismarck, North Dakota

Interment

Monday, November 20, 2023 ▪ 2:00 PM
North Dakota Veterans Cemetery
Mandan, North Dakota

Scripture Readings

First Reading	Wisdom 3:1-6,9
Responsorial Psalm 23	
<i>“The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.”</i>	
Second Reading	Romans 6:3-4,8-9
Gospel	Matthew 5:1-12a

Music

Processional	<i>“On Eagles Wings”</i>	PM #220
Offertory	<i>“Be Not Afraid”</i>	PM #100
Communion Meditation	<i>“Ave Maria”</i>	
Song of Farewell		SMH #755
Recessional	<i>“When Peace Like a River”</i>	SMH #829

Celebrant Fr. Kregg Hochhalter

Committal Service Presider Deacon Wayne Jundt

Musicians Krista Goettle and Jakub Pasierb

Reader Raymond Barth

Casket Bearers Ryan Barth, Alex Swigost, Nathan Fischer and Justin Barth

Honorary Casket Bearers Tim Meyer, Raymond Barth, David Barth, Joe Swigost, Dan Swigost, James Runtan and Warren McFatter

Following Mass, the family invites you to join them for lunch and fellowship at the Church.

Dirk Thomas Fischer of Colleyville, TX was born on August 2, 1949, and entered eternal life November 8, 2023.

Dirk was born in Kenmare ND, to Thomas A. Fischer and Priscilla (Thompson) Fischer. He grew up and graduated from high school, in Bottineau, ND. Dirk worked at the Red Owl grocery store as a teenager and had fond memories of working with his high school friend Dennis. He was active in high school band, and often accompanied soloists on the piano.

After completion of high school, he joined the Navy, and served on the USS Blue Ridge. He often spoke with pride about his time in the Navy. His Unit received Meritorious Unit Commendation, in April and May of 1975 for supporting the evacuation of US citizens, Vietnamese and Cambodian refugees, and third world nationals. He was also awarded the National Defense Service Medal. While in the Navy Dirk completed a Baccalaureate of Arts Degree in Sociology, graduating Cum Laude, thru Chapman College, Orange, CA. He was then admitted to Full Graduate Standing to a Master of Arts Degree in Business Administration.

Dirk married Elaine Barth, in July of 1988.

Returning to civilian life, Dirk accepted a job with the Souris Basin Planning Council in Minot, ND, as a Criminal Justice Planner. When funds were being cut, Dirk saw the writing on the wall and resigned. Working in oil and gas was a dream of Dirk's. While visiting his brother in Louisiana, he was introduced to a neighbor, who worked in oil and gas...Oil and gas was Dirk's passion, for the remainder of his life! When things were slow in oil and gas, he found his skills to be useful for leasing easements for pipelines or acquiring right of way easements for the highway in Minnesota. Dirk took a job in oil and gas in Texas in the early 2000's. His family later joined him in Texas, and they made their home there.

Everyone who knew Dirk, knew that his favorite band was always Don Henley and the Eagles. He liked boats and mustang cars and had more than one over the years. When he was younger, he liked to play tennis. He enjoyed following numerous sports, but hockey seemed to be his favorite. Dirk and Elaine enjoyed vacationing and went on several trips over the years for which they had great memories. They particularly enjoyed travelling to Florida with their children, family members and friends. Their children, Nathan and Andrea, brought them much joy and were a big part of their lives over the years. Dirk had many cousins he was fond of, as well as his aunt Joan who made him caramel rolls.

He is survived by his wife, Elaine; son, Nathan; daughter, Andrea; brother, Brent (Marilyn); and sister, Terresa (Kenneth).

Dirk was preceded in death, by his parents and an infant brother, Fulton.