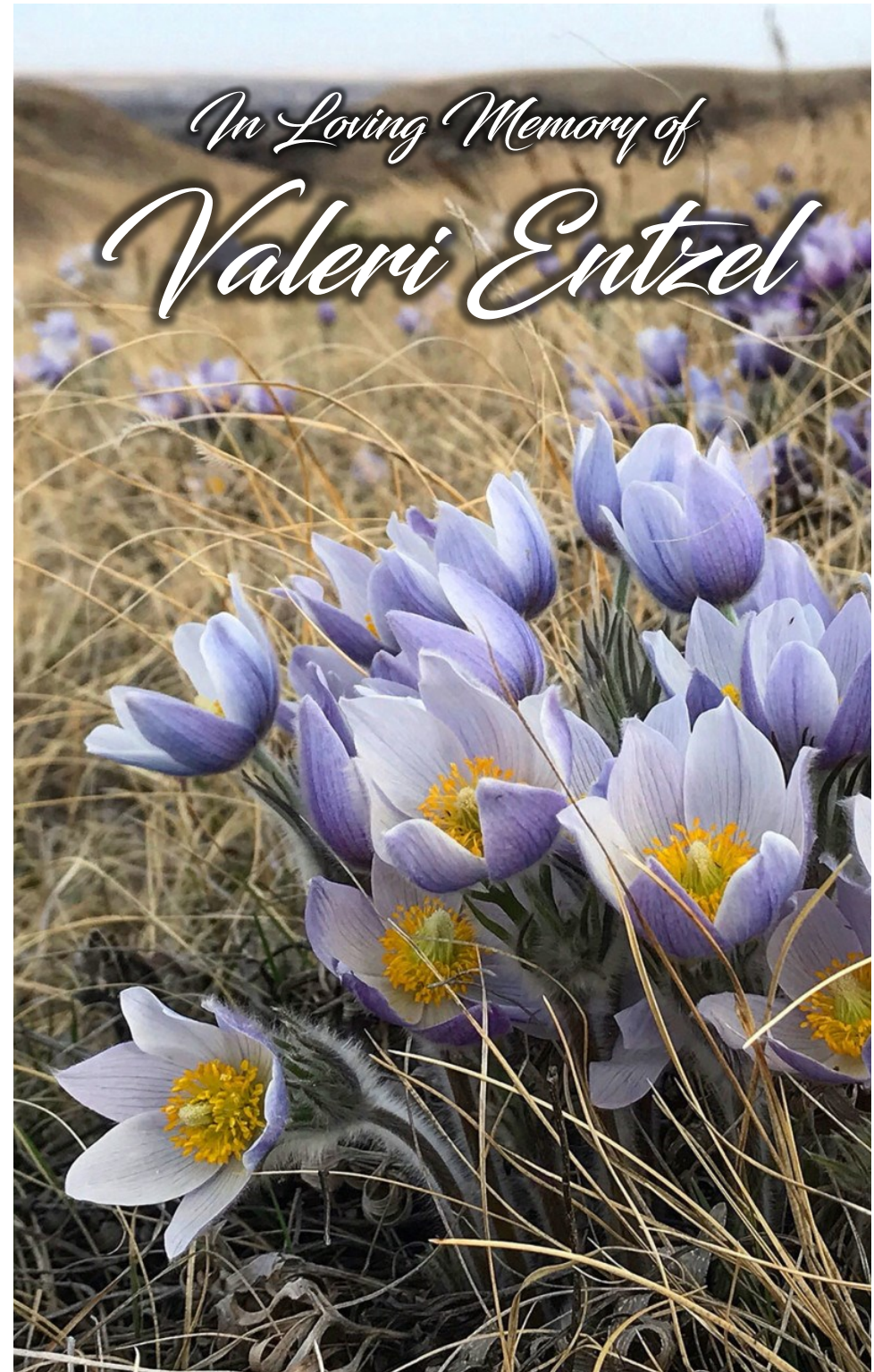
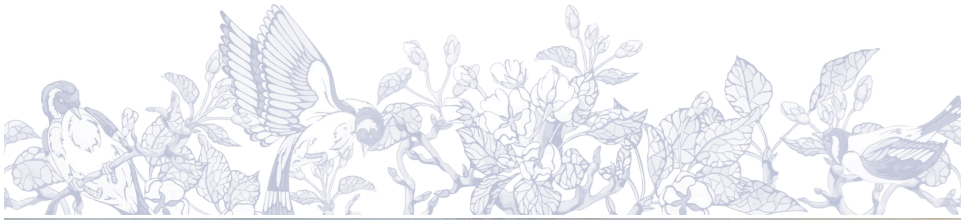


# *God Saw*

God saw you were getting tired  
And a cure was not to be,  
So He put His arms around you  
And whispered, "Come with Me."  
With tearful eyes we watched you suffer  
And saw you fade away,  
Although we loved you dearly  
We could not make you stay.  
A golden heart stopped beating  
Hard working hands to rest,  
God broke our hearts to prove to us  
He only takes the best.







**Prayer Service**  
**Special Music**  
**Presider**  
**Funeral Service**

Sunday, August 28, 2022; 6:30 PM  
Meagan Miller Family & Lynn Zachmeier  
Pastor Phil Leer  
Monday, August 29, 2022; 11:00 AM  
First Lutheran Church, Mandan, ND

**Officiant**  
**Musician**  
**Readers**

Pastor Phil Leer  
Lori Wilson  
Rev. Eli Voigt & Colleen Ressler

**Casketbearers**

All of Valeri's Grandchildren

*Celebrating the Life of Valeri Ann Entzel*

Welcome

Opening Rite (Red Hymnal)

*Gathering*

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*Thanksgiving for Baptism*

p.280

Processional Song

*"Go Rest High On That Mountain"*

Greeting/Invocation

Opening Prayer

p.281

Poem "I Love You Most" by granddaughter, Alicia Weiand

Reflections from a Friend ~ Colleen Ressler

Special Music

*"Jealous Of The Angels"*

Scriptures

Ecclesiastes 3:1-11

Proverbs 31:10-31

John 14:1-4; 6-7; 27

Sermon

Special Music

*"Amazing Grace"*

Prayers

Lord's Prayer

Closing Announcements

Recessional Song

*"I Can Only Imagine"*

**Graveside Service**

Mandan Union Cemetery

*The family invites you for food and fellowship  
in the church basement following the burial service.*

I grew up with a grandma who wasn't all there  
 She was missing a lung you see, since my age of three  
 This meant hospitals after daycare was our path  
 Or even my 3rd birthday party in the hospital caf  
 I have memories of sneaking downstairs with gramps  
 for orange push up pops  
 And we probably have endless blue hospital socks  
 Week long trips to the hospital, we came every night  
 But Jesus still said the time was not right  
 She battled and fought with pride  
 And through 21 years her family grew by her side  
 She drug an oxygen hose that seemed to last for miles  
 That didn't and couldn't break her smile  
 We had 1,000's of rides around the yard on the golf cart  
 And those weekly trips for bananas to Walmart  
 She was never one to boast, but she did constantly host  
 Scotcharoos, cherry bars, blonde brownies, and jelly rolls  
 Don't forget the cookie salad that she made bowl after bowl  
 She gave the best back scratches known to man  
 And at Christmas had homemade caramels waiting in a pan  
 Holidays spent saying this could be her last  
 But once again Jesus said her time was not passed  
 Summer after summer spent in the garden  
 Through years of sickness her compassion never hardened  
 Hours in the kitchen canning away  
 She always had the right words to say  
 She was my best friend and my rock  
 And she was always one to talk talk talk  
 We never knew how much time we had  
 But grandma would never want us to be sad  
 She loved us grandkids with all might  
 We know she fought one heck of a fight  
 I grew up with a grandma who wasn't all there  
 And now as we say goodbye we have a spot in our hearts that is bare  
 Jesus finally said it was time  
 So grams go up the stairs of heaven and climb  
 You may love me more, but I will forever love you to my core

I love you most.

~ Poem written by granddaughter, Alicia Weiland ~



## An Angel

An angel lived among us,  
 A gift from God above.  
 She showered us with kindness  
 And shared with us her love.  
 She cherished every moment  
 With the man who was her life;  
 Walking hand in hand together,  
 Facing life with all its strife.  
 She loved her children dearly,  
 Each one a different way,  
 Nestled close within her heart.  
 Though, now, she's far away,  
 She's gone to live with Jesus.  
 But, she's here with us, today,  
 Smiling down on every one of us,  
 And telling us she's okay.



**Valeri Ann Entzel**, 68, a lifelong Mandan resident, passed away peacefully with her family by her side after a short stay at a Mandan care center. Her unwavering faith in God's plan for her, her strength of character, and the love of and for her family helped carry her throughout her difficult 21-year health journey. In the end, Val called the shots, her illness did not win. She fought hard through great health struggles, stayed positive, and had 20 more years with her family than many ever expected. The evening of her passing, an unexpected storm rolled through, a "gulley washer" as she'd call it. God was preparing for her arrival to her well-deserved place in Heaven. Val could finally take a deep breath as she rode that storm to her eternal resting place.

Valeri was born February 12, 1954, the second of nine children to Pete and Dawne (Dahlen) Voigt. Raised along the Heart River bottoms southwest of Mandan, Valeri learned how to work hard and lend a hand when needed. With younger siblings and a home that always welcomed company, she became a caretaker and a hostess, traits she mastered throughout her life.

Val attended Highland Country School, one year at St. Mary's High School, and graduated from Mandan High School in 1972. In the fall of 1971, Val's Dad invited Donald Entzel, a young man he knew from the sales ring, to come coyote hunting at their place. Don says he took one look at Valeri and the rest was history. Don spent that winter driving the rough gravel roads down to their house for dates and come spring, he knew he wanted to marry Valeri as well as not spend another winter driving those roads. On June 16, 1972, Valeri and Don were married at Christ the King Catholic Church in Mandan. They made their home on the Entzel family farm north of Mandan where they shared the next 50 years. Their marriage endured many ups and downs including the stress of farming and ranching, a house fire in 1975 that forced them to start over and rebuild the home they raised their four children in, retiring from farming and finding new careers, business ownership/partnership, as well as major illnesses. They celebrated their 50th wedding Anniversary in June with their children and grandchildren. Valeri was giving of her time and talents, serving as a 4-H leader, on the Morton County Fair Board, chaperoning FFA trips, and anything her family and children were involved in. Val worked as an administrative assistant for the Morton County Extension Agent for 13 years. In 2000, she and Don started Entzel Trucking and she was the full-time bookkeeper, secretary, and shuttle driver. Val also enjoyed working a rural mail route for the Mandan Post Office for a short time. Her home was always open to visitors and friends and with a kitchen full of baked goods and a homecooked meal every night, there were often a few extras around and Val was a "Mom" to many of her kids friends. Val was always willing to teach her talents to others and gave many baking and canning lessons.

Val was the epitome of a dedicated farm wife and homemaker. She put everyone's needs before her own, made you feel welcome in her home, and fed fantastic homecooked meals to the masses whether it was in her dining room, field, or the corral. Her favorite place was in the kitchen or her garden and she was well known by family, friends, and neighbors for many things she cooked, baked, and canned, especially her scotcharoos, blonde brownies, Polish dill

pickles, strawberry rhubarb jelly, chicken noodle soup, breads, and the many German kuchen she made each year for the "hunting cabin". Val made "Apple Pie" liquor that she and Don gave as a Christmas gift to friends and business associates. Above being a devoted wife, she was the best Mom and Grandma, a role she cherished. She had a special bond with each child and grandchild, always looking for ways to connect or spoil whether it was a sweet note in a card, a phone call to look at the moon, her famous back scratches as every kid would snuggle up next to her, and the "fancy" glass bottle root beer and unique treats she'd find for the grandkids. Each grandchild received a handmade baby afghan. She was never one to raise her voice or dole out punishment. She was easy to be around, easy to please, and generous with her praise and compliments.

Don and Val enjoyed a few trips through their lives including a feedlot helicopter tour, Cozumel, Hawaii, several Nascar trips, Pennsylvania Amish Country, Washington, DC, and in 2015 Val got her bucket list trip cruise to Alaska with her mother, two sisters, three nieces, and her daughter, Jessie.

Perhaps the most lifechanging event that in some ways defined Val, but took forever to slow her down, is when she was diagnosed with lung cancer in December 2000. Over the next 21 ½ years she endured countless hospitalizations and surgeries. You could never count Val out! Every time she was told "this is the end", she rallied and recovered. Val was an inspiration to many, especially others with lung issues.

Blessed to have shared in her life is her husband of 50 years, Donald Entzel, Mandan; their four children, Carey (Monte) Weiland, Travis (Stephanie) Entzel, Josh Sr. (Stephanie) Entzel, and Jessie (Bill) Hilfer, all of Mandan-Bismarck; 12 grandchildren, Alicia Weiland (Hayden Blotsky) and Katie Weiland (Ian Dahners), Grace, Lucas, Madalin, and Hazel Entzel, Josh Jr., Jordan, and Jaycee Entzel, and Kaden, Ryan, and Liam Hilfer; her siblings, Vicki (Richard) Clarys, Olive, MT, Arni (Bert) Voigt, New Salem, Becci (Wayne) Braun, New Salem, Owen (Becky) Voigt, Helena, MT, Lynette Voigt, Bismarck, Milo (Tammy) Voigt, Mandan, and Luke (Shauna) Voigt, Mandan; her Goddaughter, Emma Keller; ---dear friends, Gail Schatz and Diane Schmidt; and many nieces, nephews, cousins, and countless friends.

Valeri was preceded in death by her parents, Pete and Dawne Voigt; brothers, Jay and Pat Voigt; and infant granddaughter, Joselin Entzel.

Memorials are preferred to Val's family that will be used for a memorial garden and park in the Entzel Acres subdivision, north of Mandan.

The family wishes to thank Valeri's surgeon, Dr. Michael Brown, pulmonologists, the late Dr. Somsak Kriengkrairut, Dr. Monica Paulo, and Deb Fueller, FNP-C, Dr. Laura Archuleta, and all of the respiratory staff and therapists, especially Roxy and Lori, with Heart & Lung Clinic & St. Alexius. A special thank you to Val's niece, Amanda Keller, and "Girl Friday"/--caregiver, Carlee Gifford for assisting the family and helping to keep Val in her home until recently.

Please go to [www.WeigelFuneral.com](http://www.WeigelFuneral.com) to share memories of Valeri.