Nicole Elizabeth (Woods) Apodaca was born on December 11, 1967, the daughter of Donald and Betty Woods in Cambridge, Minnesota. The family moved to Mendota Heights when Nicole was young. She enjoyed participating in youth sports which her dad helped coach. In addition, she participated in a Father Daughter group through the YMCA. Nicole loved the outdoors and camping with her family at Camp duNord. Nicole attended Henry Sibley High School and graduated in 1986. She furthered her education at Gustavus Adolphus receiving her degree in Psychology in 1990. During her time at Gustavus, she studied abroad in Sweden.

After graduating from college she worked at a group home for adults with disabilities. Later, she moved to Ben Lomond California to work at Mount Cross Lutheran Bible Camp as a Retreat Coordinator. This is where she met the love of her life Roger Apodaca. The couple was married on May 22, 2000. Their daughter, Ingrid, was born in 2004. The family moved back to Minnesota in 2007 where both Nicole and Roger worked at Mount Carmel Bible Camp.

Nicole loved being a mom. She enjoyed taking Ingrid to dance classes, vacation bible school, and Girl Scout Boundary Water trips.

Nicole's job of working with people with disabilities was a gift and her love for the kids and their love for her was infectious. The last few years she worked as a Para at Alexandria High School.

Nicole will be remembered for her incredible smile, her love of family, friends, and the outdoors. She was always prepared for anything with a tote in hand to provide whatever the occasion needed.

On November 29, 2021, Nicole died after 15 months of fighting cancer. She is survived by her husband, Roger Apodaca; daughter, Ingrid Apodaca; mother, Betty Woods; father, Don (Margaret) Woods; brother, Justin (Janell) Woods, and many nieces, nephews, cousins, aunts, uncles and friends.

Remembering the Life Of



Nicole Elizabeth Apodaca 1967 - 2021

The Day God Called You Home

God looked around His garden and found an empty space. Then He looked down upon the earth and saw your tired face. He put his arms around you, lifted you to rest. God's garden must be beautiful, for He only takes the best.

He knew that you were suffering. He knew you were in pain. He saw the road was getting rough, and the hills were hard to climb. So He closed your weary eyes, and whispered, "Peace be thine". It broke our hearts to lose you, but you did not go alone.

For part of us went with you, the day God called you home. In Loving Memory Of

Nicole E. Apodaca

December 11, 1967 [‡] November 29, 2021

Funeral Service First Lutheran Church Alexandria, Minnesota Tuesday, December 7, 2021 11:00 AM

> **Officiant** Pastor Greg Billberg

> > **Pianist** Randy Morken

Soloist Paula Odland

