



Elsie Mae (Folkens) Anderson, daughter of Arend and Darlene (Kuhl) Folkens, was born on June 28, 1949, in Rock Rapids, IA. Elsie graduated from West Lyon in 1967. After graduation, she attended LeMars Beauty School. She married Pete Ver Meer in 1968 and they made their home in Spencer, IA. Five kids were born to this union. In 1977, they moved to Lester, IA where Elsie did bookwork for Folkens Bros.

On July 8th, 1984, Elsie married Lynn Anderson. During the first years of their marriage, they trucked along with their son, Lowell, “her baby”. In 1988, she bought the Village Café in Hudson, SD and ran that along with the combined Backdoor Lounge for 10 years. From there, she worked at the Hudson Care Center where she enjoyed caring for others. In 2009, she left the nursing home, but continued her care for others by providing in-home care for Carrie Ann Serck. Elsie also did bookkeeping for the family trucking company as well as for her son’s company, Bear Force Trucking.

Elsie devoted many hours of her time babysitting her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She loved her family with her whole heart, and it brought her great joy to attend their activities. Some of Elsie’s favorite things included dirt racing, NASCAR, camping, and family gatherings. Elsie passed away Sunday, January 7, 2024, at Sanford USD Medical Center in Sioux Falls, SD, at the age of 74.

Elsie is survived by her husband, Lynn; children, Rob (Melinda) Ver Meer of Lester, IA, Steph (Harv) Keith of Hudson, SD, Deanna Meester (Jeff Schuller) of Hudson, SD, Wes (Alicia) Ver Meer of Larchwood, IA, and Lowell (Katie) Anderson of Hudson, SD; step-children, Lance Anderson of Tabor, SD, Laramie (Trisha) Anderson of Lake Charles, LA, Lewis (Carrie) Anderson of Kingman, AZ, Lisa (Robin) Kelley of St. Helens, OR, and Lendall Anderson of Rock Rapids, IA; 15 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; brothers, John (Lynn Porta) Folkens of Lester, IA, and Steve (Jenny) Folkens of Larchwood, IA; sister, Lori (Greg) Popkes of Rock Rapids, IA; and many nieces and nephews.

Elsie was preceded in death by her parents, Arend and Darlene Folkens; infant son, Jas Ver Meer; and grandparents, John and Alice Folkens, and George and Francis Kuhl.

Remembering the Life of Elsie Mae Anderson

June 28, 1949 ~ January 7, 2024

MEMORIAL SERVICE

10:30 AM, Friday, January 12, 2024
Bethel Reformed Church
Lester, Iowa

OFFICIATING

Pastor Steve Meester

REMEMBRANCES

Alicia Ver Meer

MUSICAL SELECTIONS

“Scars in Heaven”

“Amazing Grace”

“In the Garden”

HONORARY PALLBEARERS

Brendan Ryan ~ Paige Ver Meer

Mason Ver Meer ~ Spencer Ver Meer

Carter Ver Meer ~ Tosha Brandt

Carissa Hope ~ Austin Meester

Kielee Meester ~ Jordan Ver Meer

Jayden Ver Meer ~ Jackson Ver Meer

McKayla Anderson ~ Landon Anderson

Liam Anderson ~ Camdyn Meester

Braylon Hope ~ Brecklyn Hope

Brielle Meester ~ Peyton Meester

Ryleigh Jacobson ~ Khloe Ryan

Gabriel Dirks ~ Daxton Willard ~ Kenzlee Willard

MEMORIALS

Avera Health Foundation (www.averafoundation.org/)

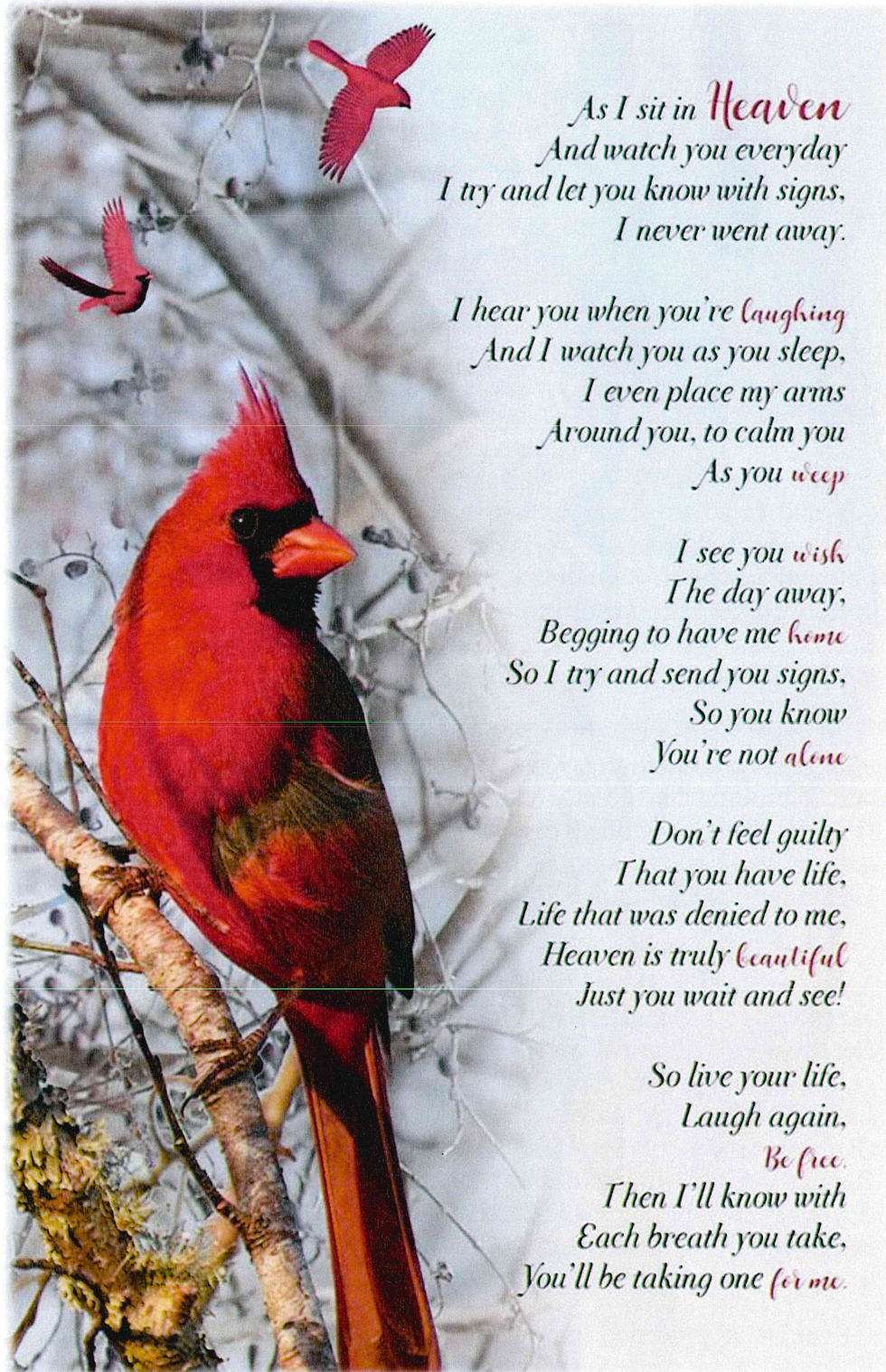
Sanford Health Foundation (www.sanfordhealthfoundation.org/)

Elsie’s family invites everyone for a time of food and fellowship in the church fellowship hall immediately following the memorial service.

Life is going by
Don't waste a minute
Being Negative
Offended or bitter
Choose to be
Happy

Having a rough day
Place your hand over your
heart feel that? That's called
purpose You're alive for a reason
Don't give up

Words written by Elsie. Words she lived by.



As I sit in *Heaven*
And watch you everyday
I try and let you know with signs,
I never went away.

I hear you when you're *laughing*
And I watch you as you sleep,
I even place my arms
Around you, to calm you
As you *weep*

I see you *wish*
The day away,
Begging to have me *home*
So I try and send you signs,
So you know
You're not *alone*

Don't feel guilty
That you have life,
Life that was denied to me,
Heaven is truly *beautiful*
Just you wait and see!

So live your life,
Laugh again,
Be free.
Then I'll know with
Each breath you take,
You'll be taking one *for me.*