

DENNIS R. FEWLESS, cherished husband and devoted father, passed away peacefully at the age of 73 on March 31, 2024, in Bismarck, North Dakota.

Dennis “Denny” was born on August 4, 1950, in Reed City, Michigan, to Ray Fewless Junior and Carolyn (Wallace) Fewless. He was the eldest of their three children and spent his early years on the Water Valley Farm (family farm) in LeRoy, Michigan.

It is here that he learned the value of family, faith, and fortitude. These values would carry with him throughout life and sustain him through obstacles and achievements. Growing up in a rural setting, Dennis enjoyed all that the outdoors could offer. This included hunting, fishing on nearby Little Hogback Lake, snowmobiling, swimming, hauling bales and milking cows. He also enjoyed sports, particularly baseball, basketball, and track. His love for the outdoors and a job opportunity brought him west to North Dakota in April 1975. He loved the rolling plains and the Badlands of North Dakota; but would always comment, “where are the trees?”

His employment as an environmental sanitarian, with the North Dakota Department of Health, allowed him the freedom to continue enjoying the outdoors. It was during this period he met the love of his life, Lydia (Duletski) Fewless. They were married in Bismarck, on October 8, 1977, at the Pro-Cathedral of St.

Mary. In 1984, Dennis decided to pursue a master’s degree in public administration at Montana State University in Bozeman, Montana. It was there they were blessed with a daughter, Theresa Renae, who was born on March 22, 1985. Dennis returned to the North Dakota Department of Health and worked as a program supervisor and assistant director of the Water Supply and Pollution Control Division. In 1990, he was named Director of the Division of Water Quality.

Dennis earned his bachelor’s degree in environmental health from Ferris State University, Big Rapids, Michigan, and did additional coursework in environmental management at the University of Southern California. Dennis served as co-chairman of the North Dakota Non-Point Source Task Force Committee, co-chairman of the Souris River Bilateral Monitoring Group, and a member of the board of directors of the Association of State and Interstate Water Pollution Control Agencies.

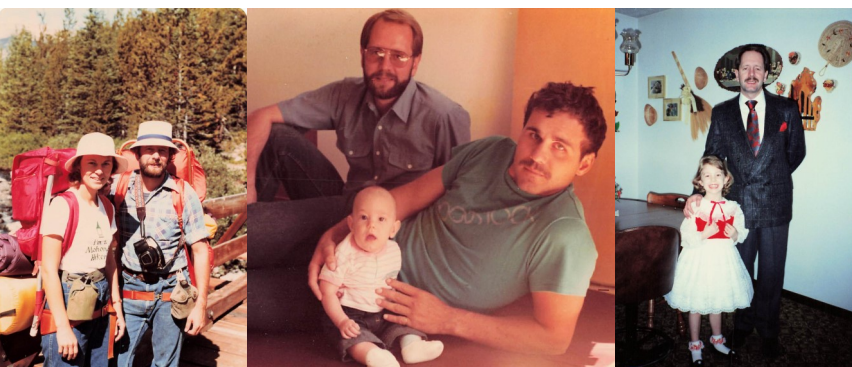
Dennis retired in 2014 and pursued other interests, including outdoor adventures and travel to his “bucket list” destinations. He traveled with family and friends to Australia and New Zealand, Christmas in New York City, Zion National Park, Arches National Park, Glacier National Park, Qatar, Dubai, Iceland, and went salmon fishing in Alaska. He always enjoyed returning home to North Dakota and going back to his childhood roots in Michigan.

“It is always nice to go; but sure is nice to be home” he would often say. Every fall, he would gear up for pheasant and deer hunting. More recently, he and Lydia would hit the big water of Lake Sakakawea for days of exciting walleye fishing. He often caught his limit and loved telling fishing tales.

Dennis was always generous with his knowledge and wisdom. He was an organizer that spearheaded many projects and activities. His generosity and empathy are a lasting legacy of love and devotion to his wife, daughter, family, and friends. He is survived by his loving wife, Lydia, and his cherished daughter, Theresa. He also leaves behind his brother, Gary, of LeRoy, Michigan; sister, Jeannie Booher and her husband Garry of Marion, Michigan; brother-in-law Tony (Mary) Duletski of Bowman, North Dakota; brother-in-law, John (Nancy) Duletski of Dickinson, North Dakota; and sister-in-law, Bernice Duletski of Bismarck, North Dakota. He is preceded in death by his parents, Ray and Carolyn Fewless.

Memorials can be made online to American Cancer Society Hope Lodge, Minneapolis, MN, or mailed to 2500 University Ave SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414.

*I know that weeping may stay for the night,
but rejoicing comes in the morning.*
-PSALM 30:5



In Loving Memory of
Dennis R. Fewless

August 4, 1950 ~ March 31, 2024

Memorial Service

Tuesday, April 9, 2024 ▪ 10:30 AM
Parkway Funeral Service ▪ 2330 Tyler Pkwy
Bismarck, North Dakota

Interment

At a Later Date
St. Mary's Cemetery
Bismarck, North Dakota

Hymn *"On Eagle's Wings"*

Words of Greeting

Prayer

Scripture

Ecclesiastes 11:1-6
Responsorial Psalm 23
2 Timothy 2:8-13
John 14:1-6

Special Music *"Amazing Grace"*

Eulogies

Message

Lords Prayer

Announcements

Final Blessing

Recessional *"You Raise Me Up"*

Officiants Rev. Ethan Tews

Musicians Vicki Martel and Romeo Norris

Readers Mary Duletski, Christina Apple and Zane Miller

Eulogists Dave Glatt, Olivia Duletski and Lydia Fewless

Casket Bearers Ryan Duletski, Daniel Duletski, James Duletski,
Zane Miller, Christopher Holtwick, Kaden Ficek,
Joseph Odermann and Sam DeVries

Following the service, family invites you to join them for lunch
and fellowship at The Municipal Country Club, 930 N. Griffin St.



Tribute Video

Eastgate & Parkway Funeral Service ▪ Bismarck, North Dakota



AN IRISH BLESSING

*May the road rise to meet you.
May the wind be always at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
the rain fall soft upon your fields,
and until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of His hand.*



IN LOVING MEMORY OF
Dennis R. Fewless
AUGUST 4, 1950 ~ MARCH 31, 2024

"AND HE SHALL BE LIKE A TREE
PLANTED BY THE RIVERS OF WATER
THAT BRINGETH FORTH HIS FRUIT IN SEASON;
HIS LEAF ALSO SHALL NOT WITHER;
AND WHATSOEVER HE DOETH SHALL PROSPER."
PSALM 1:3