

In Loving Memory of
Gerald “Jerry, Jer-Bear” Ripplinger
June 26, 1951 ~ October 15, 2024

Mass of Christian Burial

Friday, October 25, 2024 ▪ 10:00 AM
Corpus Christi Church ▪ 1919 N 2nd St.
Bismarck, North Dakota

Interment

Friday, October 25, 2024 ▪ 1:00 PM
North Dakota Veterans Cemetery
Mandan, North Dakota

Liturgy of the Word

Old Testament Ecclesiastes 3:1-8
Responsorial Psalm 23
“The Lord is my shepherd there is nothing I shall want.”
New Testament Paul to the Romans 6:3-9
Gospel Matthew 5:1-12a

Music

Prelude *“Go In Peace”*
Opening *“Be Not Afraid”*
Offertory *“On Eagle’s Wings”*
Communion *“Amazing Grace, My Chains are Gone”*
Final Commendation *“Song of Farewell”*
Closing Song *“Lead Me, Lord”*

Celebrant Msgr. Patrick Schumacher

Musician Colleen Reinhardt

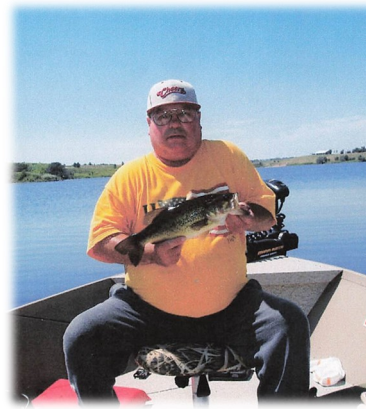
Readers Kathy Ripplinger and LeeAnn Thiel

Honorary Pall Bearers Kelsie De Jesus, Ashton Madche, Kole Kallstrom,
Katelyn Kallstrom, Kennedy Kallstrom and Emma Williams

Following the Mass, the family invites you to join them for lunch and fellowship in the Parish Hall at Corpus Christi Catholic Church.

*“If there ever comes a day when we can’t be together,
keep me in your heart, I’ll stay there forever”*

WINNIE THE POOH



Gerald “Jerry, Jer-Bear” Ripplinger, 73, Fargo, passed away on Tuesday October 15th at the VA Hospital in Fargo with his wife LaVerne by his side.

Jerry and LaVerne (Gerving) were married in 1988 and he became the stepfather to Daniel, Becky, Kristie and Jeffrey Williams.

Jerry was born on June 26th, 1951 in Mandan, ND to Peter and Margaret (Lauinger) Ripplinger. He was the youngest of 15 children. He enlisted in the Army in August, 1969 and served in Korea and Germany until March, 1972. Following his service, he worked various jobs from truck driver to eyeglass technician. He later went to trade school where he earned a Water and Wastewater Treatment Degree. He worked at treatment plants in South Dakota and Wyoming before establishing a career for the City of Fargo's Wastewater Treatment Plant where he worked for almost 20 years, retiring in 2018.

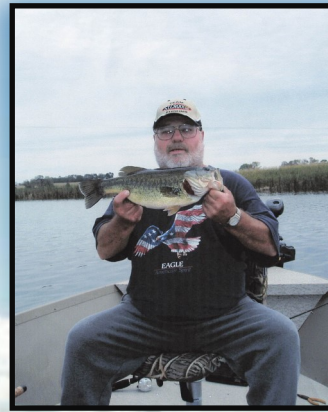
Jerry enjoyed watching his Yankees and Nascar. He was an avid Bass Fisherman. He would practice Catch, Kiss and Release for the thrill and challenge of “catching the big one.” Jerry was known for “kissing” his bass before returning them to catch again another day. He enjoyed having family, friends and his kids around and when the grandkids started coming, he found them to be his greatest joy. He loved every moment with them from taking his grandsons fishing or out to eat to watching his granddaughters play with all of the toys from the toy chest. He was so very proud of his great-grandchildren who affectionately called him ‘Great Papa.’

Jerry was preceded in death by his parents, Peter and Margaret Ripplinger; three sisters, Annette, Charlotte “Toots”, Shirley; seven brothers; William, Casper, Robert, Richard, Theodore and Eugene; daughter-in-law, Corrine Williams and infant, grandson, Zachary Williams.

Jerry will be deeply missed by his wife of 36 years, LaVerne; stepchildren, Daniel (Roxy) Williams, Lincoln ND, Becky (Kevin) Madche, Bismarck, Kristie (Kyle) Williams, Fergus Falls, MN and Jeffrey Williams, Fargo ND; six grandchildren, Kelsie (Miguel) De Jesus, Ashton (Margo) Madche, Kole, Katelyn, and Kennedy Kallstrom and Emma Williams; four great-grandchildren, Oliver, Mason, Maevery De Jesus; baby boy Madche, due in January 2025; his sister, Donna Norton, Bismarck; three brothers, Larry (Michelle) Ripplinger, Mandan, Gary Ripplinger, Mandan, Pete (Kathy) Ripplinger, Billings, MT and numerous nieces and nephews.

He will always be remembered by his future generations as ‘Great Papa.’

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the charity of your choice.



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Miss Me But Let Me Go

*When I come to the end of the day
And the sun has set for me,
I want no rites in a gloom-filled room.
Why cry for a soul set free?
Miss me a little, but not too long
And not with your head bowed low.
Remember the love we once shared---
Miss me, but let me go.*

*For this is a journey we all must take
And each must go alone.
It's all a part of the Maker's plan,
A step on the road to home.
When you are lonely and sick at heart,
Go to the friends we know
And bury your sorrows in doing good deeds--
Miss me, but let me go.*



To my family and relatives
My grandchildren
and friends so true,
You all have been so good to me
Thank You, I love all of you.
When your life is over
And death draws near,
Oh, the joy of our meeting
To be together forever here.