



*Don't grieve for me for now I'm free,
I'm following the path God laid for me
I took his hand when I heard him call,
I turned my back and left it all
I could not stay another day,
To laugh, to love, to work or play
Tasks left undone must stay that way,
I've found that peace at the close of day
If my parting has left a void,
Then fill it with remembered joy
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,
Ah yes, these things I too will miss
Be not burdened with times of sorrow,
I wish for you the sunshine of tomorrow
My life's been full, I've savored much,
Good friends, good times, my loved one's touch
If my time seemed all too brief,
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief
Lift up your heart, rejoice with me,
God wanted me now, He set me free.*

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Robert Lynn Athey

WHO WAS BORN

September 19, 1957
Ortonville, Minnesota

AND CALLED TO HIS ETERNAL HOME

November 3, 2025
Big Stone City, South Dakota

FUNERAL SERVICE

Friday, November 21, 2025 - 11:00 a.m.
Big Stone Tabor Methodist Church
Big Stone City, South Dakota

OFFICIANT

Pastor Sandra Marquardt

MUSICIAN

Mischelle Kummrow, Vocalist

EULOGY

Dale Athey

READERS

Lori Brandt | Teresa Athey

SPECIAL SONGS

*"Scars in Heaven" | "Jealous of Angels"
"Never Not Remember You" | "Amazing Grace, My Chains are Gone"
"Don't Forget Me (When I'm Gone)" - Glass Tiger*

ACTIVE URN BEARER

Dale Athey

HONORARY BEARERS

Big Stone City Fire Department | Big Stone City Employees
Local Law Enforcement

APPRECIATION

Your expressions of kindness and love are deeply appreciated.
Following the service, please join the family for a time of
fellowship and a luncheon at the Big Stone City Community Center.

Robert Lynn Athey was born on September 19th, 1957, in Ortonville, MN, to Stanley and Marilyn (Duncan) Athey. The family lived in Clinton, MN, and moved to Lead, SD, when his father got a job at the Homestake Gold Mine. When Bob was ten years-old, the family settled in Big Stone City. Bob attended fifth through eighth grade there and high school in Ortonville, graduating with the Class of 1975.

After high school Bob continued working at Frigo Cheese Factory and then built grain bins for about one year. On November 1, 1977, Bob began his career with the city of Big Stone City working in the maintenance department. On May 2nd, 1994, he was appointed the Utilities Manager. He retired in 2022 after 45 years of service.

Bob was a very hard worker and was always eager to help in any way that he was able. He enjoyed working with friends and neighbors, and was always available for them. In 1979, Bob worked part-time as a patrolman in Big Stone City. Then in 1980, he attended Rohl Keyback Criminal Justice School in Pierre, SD, and earned his police license. He continued in law enforcement by working part-time for the Ortonville Police Department and the Big Stone County Sheriff's Department, retiring from law enforcement in 1999. He also served on the Big Stone Fire Department for 20 years.

Bob was united in marriage to the love of his life, Marcy Hoyer, on May 3, 1997, in Big Stone City. They made their home on the edge of town, where they enjoyed the serenity of country life and the beauty and wildlife it offered.

To say that Bob loved to fish was an understatement! He caught many fish and proudly shared pictures of his catch. His family and friends enjoyed many meals of his harvest. Being an avid outdoorsman, he enjoyed bow hunting deer, and the tranquility of being in nature.

Bob had a friendly and mischievous personality. He loved people and had a gift for making them feel at ease. He was quick with his wit and loved to tell a good joke or two. He was a prankster, which usually turned out humorously, and he loved to tell stories.

Left to cherish his memory are his wife, Marcy; two sons: Dustin Athey and Ryan Goggin (fiancé Nicole Gustafson); brother, Dale (Pam) Athey; and sister, Teresa Athey. Bob was preceded in death by his parents: Stanley and Marilyn Athey; his parents-in-law: Harris "Tookie" and Elizabeth Hoyer; two brothers: Les Athey and Larry Athey; and one nephew, Jesse Athey.

*Please use this QR Code to view Bob's
online obituary, slide show, and guestbook.*

