MEMORIAL SERVICE

Monday, October 12, 2026 – 5:00 p.m.

Askew Funeral Home - Cavalier, North Dakota

CLERGY

Heather Duerre

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Amazing Grace" – Chris Tomlin

"Scars in Heaven" – Casting Crowns

"The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; they rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me in all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever." -Psalm 23

"Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her." -Proverbs 31:28



In Loving Memory

Karen E. Backes

May 24, 1955 – September 29, 2026



Karen Elaine Backes, age 71, of Mountain ND, passed away peacefully in her home on September 29th, 2026. She was a devoted wife, cherished mother, beloved grandmother, caring sister, and treasured friend. Her greatest joy in life was her family, and she gave herself freely to those she loved. She had a beautiful heart, a gentle spirit, and a way of making the people around her feel loved and welcome. Karen was born on May 24th, 1955 in Devils Lake ND to Kenneth and Janice Lindenberg. On September 27th, 1974, she married the love of her life, Bill, and together they built a life, a family, and countless memories. She is survived by and will be deeply missed by her husband, Bill, her son Kelsey and his wife Simone, her daughter Kaley and husband Steffen, and her granddaughter Natalie. Her siblings, Renee (Dale) Arens, Keith (Diane) Lindenberg, Brian (LaDawn) Lindenberg, Lori (Jason) Lambrecht and the many nieces, nephews, relatives, and dear friends.



Shortly after Karen graduated high school she married William Backes. Not long after, they expanded their family by welcoming Kelsey and two years later Kaley. When the kids were in high school she decided to further her education by attending East Grand Forks Tech School for a business degree. She worked at the Langdon hospital in the medical records department for many years. In the meantime she saw her son join the US Airforce and a year later sent her daughter off to college. While Kelsey was stationed in Germany, Karen and Bill took several trips to visit him with each trip adding a few more family members. They continued making trips to visit Kelsey and his wife Simone after they moved to Utah in 2022. Karen and Bill were fortunate to have Kaley living so close to home in Cavalier, ND. In 2007 they welcomed their beautiful granddaughter Natalie Greenwood. 18 short years later Karen helped move Natalie to Grand Forks where she works and is achieving her degree in elementary education. Karen and Bill were happy to have one more surprise when Kaley married Steffen Anderson in 2021.



Karen found joy in camping, traveling, and making memories with her family and friends. She loved hosting gatherings and tending her many flowers. A favorite pastime was watching, feeding and on occasion naming the beautiful birds as they passed through. Most of all, Karen relished the time spent with her closest family and friends. After building her forever home with Bill, she created a place filled with love, laughter, and memories. Karen loved a good book and passed that passion on down to her children, maybe not Karen's favorite genre, but the need to have a book in hand in those quiet times.



She was preceded in death by her parents, Kenneth and Janice, her sisters Becky Lindenberg, Rochelle (Randy Slama), and brother Curtis Lindenberg.

Heavenly Father,

Today our hearts are broken as we say goodbye to a woman who was so much more than a wife, mother, grandmother, sister, an aunt or friend, no matter what you were, she will be missed and she is missing you.

Lord, surround her husband, children, granddaughter, family and friends with your Loving arms. Give them strength for the days when sadness feels overwhelming and comfort them when they miss her most. May the memories of her life become treasures we carry forever.

May her love continue to live through each of us.

Until we meet her again, keep her safely in Your eternal arms and keep our family close together.

We love her. We miss her.

And we thank you, God, for the blessing of having her in our lives.

In Jesus' precious name, Amen.

