

Alice McColley

Alice Ann Swanson was born on February 23, 1942, in Breckenridge, MN to C.R. "Whitey" and Edith (Klosterman) Swanson. She was baptized at the Fairmount Methodist Church. Growing up, Alice attended school in Fairmount, ND, and graduated from Fairmount High School in 1960. In 1964, she married George McColley. Their daughter Debra was born in 1966. The family traveled the world and moved often, making their home from Spain to Texas as George was with the United States Air Force. When George retired in 1997, the couple returned to his hometown of Indianapolis, Indiana. George passed away in 2001.

Alice returned to North Dakota to live closer to her extended family, making her home in Wahpeton, ND, for a time. When health issues, including Parkinson's Disease, prevented her from living on her own, she resided at the MN Veteran's Home in Fergus Falls and Serenity Living in Sebeka, MN, where she received excellent care.

Alice was an avid reader who could "make words sing" in her writing, and always "tested" herself with difficult puzzles. She loved fishing, shopping, and traveling.

She is survived by her daughter, Debra (Lee) Crase of Columbus, Indiana; her sister-in-law, Carmen Swanson of Fairmount, ND, sisters; Constance Smith, Carrollton, MO, Dorothy (Peter) Hermes, Ashby, MN and Carol (Bill) Kessler, Portland, OR; as well as many nieces, grand nieces, nephews and grand nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, brother, Ron Swanson, and brother-in-law, Jim Smith. Burial will take place in Tipton, IN.



In Loving

M E M O R Y



Alice Ann McColley

1942 - 2025



FOR ONE WHO DANCE A DIFFERENT WAY!

She walked a path not paved or planned,
with wildflowers in her open hand,
and thoughts that sparkled, strange and bright,
like stars that only shine at night.

She saw the world a different way, Heard colors sing,
felt silence play. And though some said she was “askew,”

HER HEART WAS DEEP, HER KINDNESS TRUE.

She laughed in corner most don't see, and offered
grace unselfishly. The rules she wore a little loose but oh,
the joy she set in motion loose. She didn't fit the common
mold, but in her soul lived quiet gold. She gave us light

without a name, a flicker, soft, but never tame.

So let us bless her gentle flame not change her,

not explain her name.

For in her difference, love was found.

A life that turned us gently round.

God Bless the Memory of Alice Ann McColley



Alice Ann McColley



Born

February 23, 1942 | Breckenridge, Minnesota

Passed Away

May 25, 2025 | Sebeka, Minnesota

Age

83 Years | 3 Months | 1 Day

Memorial Service

2:00 PM | Thursday, June 5, 2025

Vertin-Munson Funeral Home | Wahpeton, North Dakota

Officiant

Pastor Shandon Klein

Organist

Roberta Whitehead

Soloist

Kris Klindt | “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

Music

“What A Friend We Have In Jesus”

“How Great Thou Art”

“Abide With Me”

“Silent Night”

Interment at a Later Date

Fairview Cemetery | Tipton, Indiana