

Born to Kenny and Vada (Bunger) Raanes on November 13th, 1953, Sharon was the youngest of three children, growing up alongside her siblings Sandra Berry and Gene Raanes. From an early age, she carried a warmth and kindness that would become the foundation of her life—a life defined by love, resilience, and a heart bigger than most.

Sharon met the love of her life Steve Larson in 1973, and their connection was instant. They were happily married on May 18th, 1974, beginning a partnership that would last 52 joyful years. Together, Sharon and Steve built a life full of laughter, adventures, and music. They shared countless dances, road trips, and special moments, always finding joy in each other's company together. In true Sharon fashion, she was still out on the dance floor just two weeks before her passing, living life fully as she always had.

She dedicated an incredible 41 years working at the State Penitentiary, where she was known for her commitment, strength, and the respect she earned from coworkers and friends alike. Sharon found joy in the things she loved most—horses, dogs, camping, rodeos, side-by-side rides, and, above all, spending time with friends and family. Sharon had a gift for bringing people together, and her happiest moments were filled with laughter and love with those she loved. Friends and family often described her as *feisty, loving, stubborn, caring, lucky, ornery, and fun*. She had an unmatched zest for life—often with a cigarette in one hand and a Coors Light, Diet Dew, or White Buffalo in the other. Her spunky, joyful spirit brought smiles wherever she went, leaving lasting memories for all who knew her.

Sharon and Steve were devoted parents to their son, Chad Larson, raising him with love, guidance, and unwavering support. Sharon was Chad's biggest fan, always cheering him on at sporting events near and far, celebrating his successes, and offering comfort during challenges. Her enthusiasm and pride never wavered, and she delighted in every milestone of his life.

That same deep, unconditional love extended to her beloved granddaughter, Moriah, who meant the world to her. Sharon cherished every moment spent with her—attending her activities, celebrating milestones, or simply enjoying time together. She delighted in watching Moriah grow and looked forward with joy to welcoming a great-granddaughter on the way. Sharon's presence was a constant source of love and support in Moriah's life, and she never missed an opportunity to show how proud she was.

Sharon is survived by her loving husband, Steve Larson; her son, Chad Larson; her sister, Sandra Berry (the late Chuck Berry); her brother, Gene Raanes; her granddaughter, Moriah (Devon) Romey; and many dear friends who became like family. She was preceded in death by her parents, Kenny and Vada Raanes.

Though she may be gone from our sight, Sharon's love, laughter, and spirit will live on in every life she touched.

In Memory Of **Sharon Larson**

November 13, 1953 † April 7, 2026

Funeral Service

10:30 AM

Tuesday, April 14, 2026
Benton Lutheran Church
Crooks, South Dakota

Officiating

Vicar Kendra Kappler

Recorded Music

By Alan Jackson

“Softly And Tenderly”

“In The Garden”

“How Great Thou Art”

Pallbearers

Leon Johnson Kenny Benson Kurk Juhl
Bill Schaefer Darrell Kurth Mike Grinde

Interment

Benton Lutheran Cemetery
Crooks, South Dakota

Legacy of Love

*A wife, a mother, a grandma too,
This is the legacy we have from you
You taught us love and how to fight
You gave us strength, you gave us might.
A stronger person would be hard to find,
And in your heart you were always kind.
You fought for us all in one way or another
Not just as a wife, not just as a mother.
For all of us you have your best
And now the time has come for you to rest.
So go in peace, you've earned your sleep,
Your love in our hearts we'll eternally keep.*



In Loving Memory



Sharon Larson

November 13, 1953 - April 7, 2026