

Bobbie Jo Willits, 79, of Fargo, ND, passed away on Friday, March 20, 2026, at Good Samaritan Society in Fargo.

Bobbie Jo Willits was born on November 19, 1946, in Fargo, ND, to Arnt and Katherine (Hanson) Nelson. She attended Emerson Smith and Jefferson Elementary Schools, Agassiz Middle School, and graduated from Fargo Central High School in 1964. On February 10, 1968, she married Charles Edward Willits at St. John Lutheran Church, a place they called home and where they raised their family.

Bobbie Jo's professional journey began at the International Milling Company in Minneapolis before she returned to Fargo. She later worked as a secretary at Gamble Robinson, but her focus soon shifted to raising their three children. For 20 years, Bobbie Jo ran a beloved in-home daycare, a job that filled her with joy, as her love for children was boundless. Later, she spent 13 years working as a housekeeper at Riverview Place, where she cherished her time connecting with residents.

In her personal life, Bobbie Jo had a love for embroidery, often enjoying the craft with her sister Jeanette and daughter Ashley during their summers together. She also loved baking, and reading a good murder mystery book at the end of a long day. Spending time at Turtle Lake was the heart of her happiest moments, where she spent her life creating cherished memories with her family.

Some of Bobbie Jo's fondest moments included baking treats for her children - a tradition she continued well into their adulthood - spending time at the lake and embracing every opportunity to be a mother. She was affectionately known as "Momma Willits" to Ashley's sorority sisters, as she and Charles took an active role in their lives during college and beyond.

Memorials are preferred to St. Jude Children's Hospital.

Bobbie Jo is survived by her children, Mark Willits (Heidi), Brian Willits (Becky), Ashley Thompson (Chad); sister, Jeanette (Dean) Guttormson; grandchildren, Brennan (Cheyanne) Willits, Brielle Willits, Alex Dally (Kelsey), Erick Dally, Isaac Dally, Cooper Thompson, Owen Thompson; great-grandchild, Wrenley Willits; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Charles; her parents; her son, Christopher Todd Willits; and granddaughter, Adelyn Thompson.

IN LOVING
Memory



Bobbie Jo Willits

November 19, 1946 - March 20, 2026

DO IT ANYWAY

*People are often unreasonable,
irrational, and self-centered.
FORGIVE THEM ANYWAY.*

*If you are kind, people may accuse you
of selfish, ulterior motives.
BE KIND ANYWAY.*

*If you are successful, you will win some
unfaithful friends and some genuine enemies.
SUCCEED ANYWAY.*

*If you are honest and sincere
people may deceive you.
BE HONEST AND SINCERE ANYWAY.*

*What you spend years creating,
others could destroy overnight.
CREATE ANYWAY.*

*If you find serenity and happiness,
some may be jealous.
BE HAPPY ANYWAY.*

*The good you do today,
will often be forgotten.
DO GOOD ANYWAY.*

*Give the best you have,
and it will never be enough.
GIVE YOUR BEST ANYWAY.*

*In the final analysis, it is between you and God.
It was never between you and them anyway.*

MOTHER TERESA

Remembering

Bobbie Jo Willits

November 19, 1946 - March 20, 2026

Prayer Service

Sunday, March 29, 2026 - 7:00 PM
Hanson-Runsvold Funeral Home - Fargo

Memorial Service

Monday, March 30, 2026 - 2:00 PM
St. John Lutheran Church - Fargo

Officiant

Pastor Chad Brucklacher
Bill Thompson, *Reflection*
Brett Guttormson, *Eulogist*

Congregational Hymns

Dawn Papenfuss, *Accompanist*
"How Great Thou Art"
"Amazing Grace" "Rock of Ages"

Honorary Pallbearers

Mark Willits - Brian Willits - Chad Thompson
Dean Guttormson - Scott Guttormson - Brett Guttormson
Brennan Willits - Cooper Thompson - Owen Thompson
Alex Dally - Erick Dally - Isaac Dally

Interment

Moorhead Memorial Gardens
Moorhead, Minnesota

All are invited to a reception following the service.



**HANSON
RUNSVOLD**
Cremation • Burial