

**Erika Renae Howard** was born February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1991, in Fort Yates, ND to Teresa Talley. Erika grew up in Kenel, SD. Erika attended St. Bernard's Mission School in her early elementary years before graduating from McLaughlin High School in 2009. Erika continued to reside in Kenel until moving to Mobridge in 2020. While living in Mobridge, Erika continued her educational journey by enrolling in higher education classes. Erika is known for her contagious smile, compassionate heart, and warm personality. Erika never hesitated when it came to helping others. Erika valued her relationships with friends and family. She loved spending time with her brother, nieces, nephew. Anywhere you would see Erika, you would see her with her best friend and dog, "Lady". Erika was a very kind and humble person. She made time for others and was willing to help anyone in their time of need. Erika was the epitome of her mom in this way. Erika enjoyed spending time with her friends and driving around, playing cards, and engaging in their social engagements. Erika valued time with her family playing Yahtzee, camping at the bay, or sitting around a fire. Erika was a beautiful person on the inside and out. She will be missed dearly by her friends and family.

Grateful for having the privilege of sharing her life is her brother Kyle Howard, nieces Hayley, Kylie, and Lily; Nephew Zaden as well as extended nieces Darian, Kassidy, Demi, Nalerie and nephews Isaac and Soren; Step-Father Galen Crow Ghost; Aunt/Godmother Renae Talley, Aunt Julie Talley both of Kenel; Uncle/Godfather Michael (Jackie) Talley, Rapid City, SD, Uncle Dustin (Jessie) Talley, Bismarck, ND, Hunter Talley, Hutchinson, KS; Grandparents Anthony Vermillion, Kenel, SD, Duane (Laurel) Vermillion, McLaughlin, SD, Maureen Marshall, Bismarck, ND, Janet Thompson, Kenel, SD, Jolene Cadotte, Wakpala, SD, and Mickey Talley, Hutchinson, KS; Cousins Andrew, Dennis, Jerome, Tristen, Kiana, Camden, Jestice, Tiara, Teylor, Kaelynn, MacKenzie.

Erika is preceded in death by her mother Terri Talley; Grandmother Marcella Talley; Grandfathers Earl and Arthur Vermillion; Great Grandparents Jerome and Lorraine Vermillion. Niece Amiyah Talley, Special Aunt Lola LaFromboise; Childhood friends Cody Flying Horse and Amy Talks.

## *In Loving Memory Of:*



***Erika Howard***  
***February 2, 1991***  
***March 4, 2022***



**IN LOVING MEMORY OF:**  
***Erika Howard***  
***“Puddles”***

**BORN:**

*February 2, 1991*  
*Ft. Yates, North Dakota*

**PASSED AWAY:**

*March 4, 2022*  
*Bismarck, North Dakota*

**FUNERAL SERVICES:**

*1:00 PM, Tuesday, March 8, 2022*

*Kesling Funeral Chapel*  
*Mobridge, South Dakota*

**CLERGY:**

*Father Jim Hoerter*

**CASKETBEARERS:**

*Andrew Talley ~ Tristen Flying Horse ~ Dennis Walking Elk*  
*Jerome Talley ~ Camden Talley ~ Zayden Howard*  
*Galen Crow Ghost*

**HONORARY BEARERS:**

*The B5: Tru Bruguier, Carol Free, Melanie Howard, & Santana Demery, and their Families. Sara and Karey Buckley. JT White Mountain, Jacob Sutton, Gabe Hollow, Lorna Holy Bear, Amber Iron Shield, Clayce Left Hand, Chad Lapointe. Christina Walking Elk, Kateri Starr, Mindy Simone. Alex and Jenny Starr, JT Walking Elk, Janet White Bull. Ray Molash. Alyssa, Tonia, and Hanna White Bull, Lexi Gayton, Jada Vetter, Sonny and Twyla Rough Surface and family. White Bull Family. Dustin and Albert Marshall. Melda Crow Feather and Family. Brady and Shawn Maxon Families. Crystal Vermillion and Family. Keaton Vermillion. Milton Howard and Family. Bad Wound Family. Mary Yells Eagle and Family. Charlie, Corwin, Vicki and Families. Lakota Flying Horse and Family. Adrian Two Hearts. Tori Demery and Family. Walking Elk Family. Left Hand Family. White Mountain Family. McLaughlin Class of 2009. Sanford Nursing Staff. Apologies to anyone we may have forgotten.*

**INURNMENT:**

*Kenel Catholic Church of Assumption Cemetery*  
*Kenel, South Dakota*

*Arrangements Entrusted to Kesling Funeral Home.*

*Don't think of her as gone away,  
her journey's just begun,  
Life holds so many facets,  
this earth is only one,  
Just think of her as resting,  
from the sorrows and the tears,  
In a place of warmth and comfort,  
where there are no days or years,  
Think how she must be wishing,  
that we could know today,  
How nothing but our sadness,  
can really pass away,  
And think of her as living,  
in the hearts of those she touched,  
For nothing loved is ever lost,  
and she was loved so much.”*