

Rea Monette Sliper (Maattala), born August 7, 1953, passed peacefully at her home in Fargo on August 13, 2026, at the age of 73.

Rea was raised in Moorhead by her parents, Leo and Aurlette Maattala (Axness), along with her four siblings. She graduated from Moorhead High School in 1971, where she was active in choir, drama, gymnastics, and cheerleading.

Her college years brought her to the Twin Cities, where she attended Golden Valley Lutheran College and later graduated from Northwestern College with a degree in Christian Ministries.

In 1982, Rea married Richard Sliper. Soon after, Richard graduated from seminary, and together they spent 32 years in ministry, serving in Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. They retired to Fargo in 2021.

Rea's talents and accomplishments were many. She was a sought-after soloist for funerals, weddings, and church events, and she wrote and directed many plays in the churches where Richard served. Rea will be remembered for her sweetness, her warm and fun-loving personality, her wonderful sense of humor, her deep love for family and friends, and her strong Christian faith. She had a special gift for bringing the Gospel to life through her angelic voice and powerful biblical dramas.

Rea was preceded in death by her parents, Leo and Aurlette Maattala, and her brothers, Cyd Maattala and Enson Maattala.

She is survived by her husband, Richard Sliper; her sister, Jethe Custer (John); her sister-in-law, Shelley Maattala (Tony Chu), widow of her brother Cyd; her brother, Daro Maattala; and many beloved nieces, nephews, extended family members, and friends.

Richard would like to thank their family, friends, and church community for the love and support shown throughout Rea's illness. A special thank-you is also extended to the Sanford Hospice care team for the compassionate care they provided both at the hospice house and later at home.

In Loving Memory



Rea Monette Sliper

August 7, 1953 – August 13, 2026

Vlug en zeer lichtjes.



PRAISE THE LORD.

HOW GOOD IT IS TO SING

PRAISES TO OUR GOD,

HOW PLEASANT AND FITTING TO PRAISE HIM!

~ PSALM 147:1



**HANSON
RUNSVOLD**
Cremation • Burial

Remembering

Rea Sliper

August 7, 1953 – August 13, 2026

Funeral Service

Saturday, August 22, 2026 – 2:00 PM

Hanson-Runsvold Funeral Home

Fargo, North Dakota

Officiants

Pastor John Custer & Pastor Richard Sliper

Special Music

Mrs. Karen Ebsch, *Soloist*

Amy Dalenger, *Accompanist*

"It Is Well"

Recessional Music

"We Shall Behold Him" – Recording by Sandi Patty

Pallbearers

Daro Maattala – Steve Schmitz – Tony Chu

John Sliper – Jeff Sliper – Dave Rostad

Burial

Riverside Cemetery

2102 5th St. S.

Fargo, North Dakota

All are invited for refreshments following the service.