

Leanne Marie Voss was born October 17, 1970, in Ontonagon, Michigan to John and Cora (Kalivoda) Voss. Leanne attended Evangel University where she pursued double degrees in sociology and social work. Leanne met the love of her life Monty Wiertzema son of Samuel Jr. and Janet Wiertzema (Johnson) while both attending Evangel University.

Leanne and Monty were married in 1992, in Green Bay, Wisconsin. In 1993, Leanne and Monty moved to Tucson, Arizona. During Leanne's career as a social worker, she served immigrant and elderly populations while also supporting Desert Christian high school students where Monty was a teacher and coach.

In 1996, Leanne and Monty moved to a small home in Breckenridge, Minnesota they would build from the ground up as their family grew. Leanne devoted her love and attention to caring for her home and family as they started their family in 1997, with the birth of Taylor Nicole, followed by Benjamin John in 2000, and Regan Anastasia in 2004.

As Leanne and Monty raised their family, Leanne's care and love extended far past her immediate family as she served in church, her children's schools, and hosted countless friends, family, and events in their home.

In 2019, Leanne and Monty moved to Fergus Falls, Minnesota, where Leanne naturally became a caring and supportive presence to students and staff at Hillcrest Academy, where her daughter Regan attended school. Leanne volunteered in the lunchroom and eventually became the registrar.

The Wiertzema family was joyfully expanded in 2020 when their son, Benjamin, married Dacotah Beth Bergstrom, of Finley, North Dakota. Leanne was overjoyed to become grandma to Oliver James in 2021, Holland Mae in 2022, and Winter Faye in 2024.

Leanne lived her life to serve God through caring, serving, and advocating for others. Leanne modeled deep faith in God through her sensitivity to His presence and her Holy Spirit led ability to notice ways big and small she could care for others. Leanne prayed often, meditated on scripture, and wrote songs during her prayer time with the Lord.

Following her stage four breast cancer diagnosis in 2020, one of the hardest parts of her journey was becoming physically unable to serve those around her at the level she had always operated in. Leanne's faith and trust in God has always been an incredible force that became an even greater force as she navigated this life-changing diagnosis.

Leanne is deeply loved, and her memory is a sacred treasure. Leanne has been and always will be an incredible example of what it means to truly love others and love God.

Her impact as daughter, sister, wife, mother, sister-in-law, aunt, grandmother, and friend will last for generations.

She will be deeply missed by her loving husband, Monty Shawn Wiertzema; children, Taylor Nicole, Benjamin John (Dacotah Beth Wiertzema), and Regan Anastasia; grandchildren, Oliver James, Holland Mae, and Winter Faye Wiertzema; parents, John and Cora Voss; siblings, Keven and Philip (Amie) Voss; parents-in-law, Samuel Jr. and Janet Wiertzema; sister-in-law, Shayla Stein; nieces, Chelsea, Mykenna, and Kady Voss; and nephews, Cameron, Philip Jr., and Payten Voss.





TO THE STRONGEST PERSON I KNOW

Some people make the world brighter just by being in it. For me, that person is my mom, someone whose quiet strength, enduring faith, and unwavering presence have profoundly shaped everyone around her.

Today, I want to honor my mom, a woman whose journey through adversity has revealed her resilience and shown me the kind of steady, unconditional love that leaves a lasting impact. Her story isn't just about surviving illness; it's about living with purpose, grounded in faith, and serving others. Her Strength is inspiring.

My mom has been living with stage 4 cancer for over five years. She has faced the reality of treatments, pain, and uncertainty without ever letting it define her. Her ability to face each day with courage reflects a strength that runs deeper than most can see. What's sustained her is something more powerful than physical strength; her faith. She has leaned into God with trust and surrender through every phase of her illness. Though she has wrestled with uncertainty and doubt, she never stays there long, she continually returns to prayer, reflection, and belief.

Watching her choose faith in the midst of fear has deeply inspired me and shaped how I view what true faith looks like. Even while facing her own challenges, she has continued to support and be present for us in every way that she can. Her Commitment to Her Family and Others is Relentless. My mom has always shown up. From school concerts and sports games to church events, she has made every effort to be there. She supports us wholeheartedly, celebrating our accomplishments and comforting us through hard times. Her selflessness continues, even when it's difficult. On her hardest days, when she is tired or in pain, she still asks, "What can I do for you?" She is always looking to serve, encourage, and support others, even when it costs her something. Her love is not just consistent; it's intentional and deeply rooted in who she is.

In a world that often celebrates loud or visible strength, my mom is a reminder that the most powerful strength is steady, faithful, and selfless. My mom's strength doesn't come from needing recognition, it comes from who she is. Her faith, resilience, humility and unwavering love have left an impression on me that words can't fully capture. This tribute is a small offering for someone who has given endlessly. Mom, your life reflects faith, courage, and compassion.

Thank you for showing up in every moment that mattered.  
You are deeply loved and could never be forgotten.

*Celebrating*  
THE LIFE OF

LEANNE WIERTZEMA



**CELEBRATION OF LIFE SERVICE**

Harvest Outreach Church

Wahpeton, North Dakota

11:00 a.m., Monday, July 14, 2025

**PARTICIPANTS**

Pastor Dominick Warne, Officiant

Jacie Christensen, Musician

Ben Wiertzema, Obituary Reader

Regan Wiertzema, Tribute Reading

Monty, Ben, & Taylor Wiertzema, Eulogists

**HONORARY PALLBEARERS**

Jeff & Rebekah Christensen

Caleb, Eli, Micah, & Ezra Christensen

All Who Knew, loved, & Called Leanne "Friend"

**MUSIC**

You Say | What a Beautiful Name | I Speak Jesus

Fields of Grace

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

*Sung by Regan, Ben, & Taylor Wiertzema*

*Another in The Fire*

*The family of Leanne Wiertzema would like to thank you for all the support, love, and care you have provided for them during this time. Your presence at the service is deeply appreciated.*

