

A limb has fallen from the family tree.  
I keep hearing a voice that says, "Grieve not for me."

Remember the best times, the laughter, the song.

The good life I lived while I was strong.

Continue my heritage, I'm counting on you.

Keep smiling and surely the sun will shine through.

My mind is at ease, my soul is at rest.

Remembering all, how I truly was blessed.

Continue traditions, no matter how small.

Go on with your life, don't worry about falls.

I miss you all dearly, so keep up your chin.

Until the day comes we're together again.

# In Loving Memory



Valerie Kay Hlawka

June 6, 1956 ~ November 15, 2025

# I Am free

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free.  
I'm following the path God laid, you see.  
I took His hand when I heard Him call.

I turned around and left it all.

I could not stay another day,  
To laugh, to love, to work or play.  
Tasks left undone must stay that way,  
I've found the peace on a sunny day.

If my parting has left a void,  
Then fill it with remembered joys.  
A family shared, a laugh, a kiss,  
Oh yes, these things, I too, will miss.  
Be not burdened with times of sorrow,  
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.

My life's been full, I savored much,  
Good friends, good time, a loved one's touch.

Perhaps my time seemed all to brief.  
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.  
Lift up your hearts and peace to thee.

God wanted me now; He set me free.

*Thank you for your presence and condolences.*

*In Loving Memory Of*

Valorie "Val" Kay Hlawka

Date of Birth  
June 6, 1956

Date of Death  
November 15, 2025

### Funeral Service

Monday, November 24, 2025 at 10:00 am  
Central Meade County Community Center  
Union Center, South Dakota

### Officiant

Pastor Harold Delbridge

### Musical Selections

"What a Day That Will Be"  
"Amazing Grace"  
"Jealous of the Angels"  
"I Can Only Imagine"  
"I Love a Rainy Night"

### Pallbearers

Roxie Tetrault, Irma Fees, Vickie Humble,  
Kay Palmer, Deb Gropper, Susan Cody,  
Cheryl Mammenga & Teresa Bonnet

### Honorary Pallbearers

All family and close friends.

### Final Resting Place

Plainview Cemetery  
Plainview, South Dakota

**V**alorie Kay Price Hlavka was born on June 6, 1956, to Bobby and Earleen (Schuelke) Price. She joined her brother Gary and sister Charmagne on the ranch south of Maurine, SD. When Bobby and Earleen were told their daughter would never walk, due to a birth defect, they found Dr. H.L. Arhlin in Rapid City and so began their many trips to straighten that foot and give her a great life! Like many country folk, Valorie grew up loving the ranch life and all it had to offer, especially her pets and anything outdoors. She loved riding horses, helping with chores, ice skating, sledding, country dances, swimming in the river and getting together with cousins.

Valorie attended 1<sup>st</sup> grade at West Deep Creek School, 2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade at Fox Ridge School, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade at Maurine School then off to high school in Faith. Later, she attended Black Hills State College where she earned an Associate Degree in Computer Software Applications Programming. During high school, she stayed in Faith all 4 years where she enjoyed basketball, track, and rodeo all while building friendships that lasted a lifetime!

On August 3, 1974, she married Doug Hlavka and moved to his family ranch near Plainview, SD. They were blessed with son, Jade in 1978 and daughter, Leann in 1980. Her greatest joy was raising these two on the prairie and watching them succeed in school, sports, and life. As you all know, the school activities your kids are in consume you for a time, but it is the BEST of times! Val felt that when watching her kids, there was nothing better. For Val, this included 4-H, church, and neighborhood fun. LIFE WAS GREAT!

Val worked at Afdahl Hardware and Hibner Bookkeeping during high school years and continued to help at Hibner's during tax season for many years. In 1986, they moved to Sturgis, where they rented Jim and Charmagne's house. Doug worked for Hilt Engineering while Val worked at Philtown General Store and for the Sturgis School District until she started school at BHSC. They moved back to the ranch in 1989, and Val began working at Takini School and enjoyed it for 23 years. For 2 years she worked from home with Administrative Solutions and for 7 years she worked from home helping schools online.

Val was a Plainview Extension Club member; a 4-H leader; an elementary school basketball coach; a board member of the Howard Township and Plainview Hall; a secretary/treasurer for many Faith High School, Takini High School, and Meade County 4-H rodeos; she helped with the H&M playdays and ropings; and was also the secretary/treasurer for Howes Grazing Association. She was a member of the Marcus Church and taught Sunday School. Her

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hobbies included taking photos, making albums, and keeping family history; though admittedly, was not particularly good at it. She enjoyed the outdoors, be it riding or working around the ranch. Prairie life with family was what she loved.

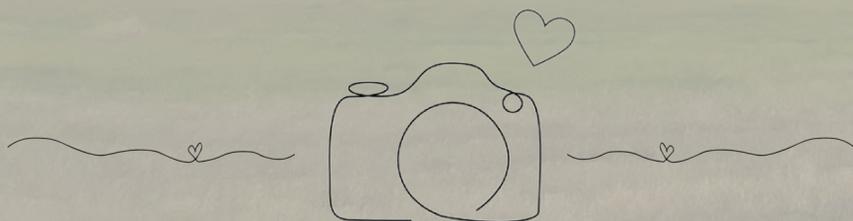
The family was blessed with a friend and daughter-in-law Annie and soon joining them were three grandsons! Nana Val found a love that put new wind in her sails! What a joy to relive childhood adventures with Waylon, Zeke, and Briggs on the ranch and beyond. In Val's very own words, "Love you always and forever boys!" She was forever blessed to have a perfect circle of friends and family to share in her life's journey.

Continuing their adventures here on Earth is her best friend and husband of 50+ years, Doug Hlavka; son Jade & Annie Hlavka; daughter Leann Hlavka; and grandsons Waylon, Zeke, and Briggs Hlavka; her brother Gary & Karen Price and their family; her sister Charmagne Lightfield and her family; sisters-in-law, Jeanny Hlavka (& family) and Janet Hlavka (& family). Each family member had a special place in Val's heart, and she treasured each moment with them.

As she missed them each day, and hoped to reunite with them, are her parents Robert William and Earleen Elizabeth (Schuelke) Price; In laws John Robert and Marion Lucille (Overacker) Hlavka; brother-in-law James E. Lightfield; four Grandmothers she was so blessed to know, Florence Price, Elizabeth Schuelke, Gladys Hlavka, and Alice Overacker; four Grandfathers, one of which she was blessed to know for 5 years, Robert Price plus Albert Schuelke, Jack Hlavka , and Jesse Overacker; and her Aunts and Uncles whom she loved dearly.

Valorie Hlavka's services will be held at 10:00 AM on Monday November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at the Central Meade County Community Center with a luncheon to follow. Burial will take place on Monday November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at the Plainview Cemetery following the luncheon. A visitation will be one day prior on Sunday November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025, from 2:00-4:00 PM at Kinkade Funeral Chapel.

In remembrance of Valorie's life and love, the family asks that any charitable donations be made to the Shriners of Rapid City or the Enning Ambulance.



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