

### A Letter from Heaven

To my dearest family, some things I'd like to say.  
But first of all, to let you know, that I arrived okay.  
I'm writing this from heaven. Here I dwell with God above.  
Here, there's no more tears of sadness;  
Just eternal love.

Please do not be unhappy because I am out of sight.  
Remember that I am with you every morning, noon and night.  
That day I had to leave you when my life on earth was through.  
God picked me up and hugged me and He said, "I welcome you.  
It's good to have you back again, you were missed while you were gone.  
As for your dearest family, they'll be here later on.  
I need you here so badly, you are part of my plan.  
There is so much that we can do, to help our mortal man".  
God gave me a list of things, that he wished for me to do.  
And foremost on the list, was to watch and care for you.  
I will be beside you, every day of the week and year.  
And when you're sad I'm standing there, to wipe away the tears.  
And when you lie in bed at night the days chores put to flight.  
God and I are closest to you....in the middle of the night.  
When you think of my life on earth, and all those loving years.  
Because you are only human, they are bound to bring you tears.  
But do not be afraid to cry; it does relieve the pain.  
Remember there would be no flowers, unless there was some rain.  
I wish that I could tell you all that God has planned.  
But if I were to tell you, you wouldn't understand.  
But one thing is for certain, though my life on earth is over.  
I'm closer to you now, than I ever was before.  
There are rocky roads ahead of you and many hills to climb;  
But together we can do it by taking one day at a time.  
It was always my philosophy and I'd like it for you too;  
That as you give unto the world, the world will give to you.  
If you can help somebody who is in sorrow and pain;  
Then you can say to God at night....My day was not in vain.  
And now I am contented... that my life was worthwhile.  
Knowing as I passed along the way I made somebody smile.  
So if you meet somebody who is sad and feeling low;  
Just lend a hand to pick them up, as on your way you go.  
When you're walking down the street and you've got me on your mind;  
I'm walking in your footsteps only half a step behind.  
When you feel a gentle breeze of wind upon your face,  
That's me giving you a great big hug, a loving, warm embrace.  
And when it's time for you to go...from that body to be free.  
Remember you're not going...you're coming here to me.

Author: Ruth Ann Mahaffey

*In Loving Memory of*

## **Bernadine Lorraine (White Mouse) Gingway**

*March 11, 1948 ~ November 7, 2021*

### **Funeral Service**

*St. Joseph's Catholic Church*

*Fort Thompson, SD*

*Saturday, November 13, 2021*

*11:00 a.m.*

### **Officiating**

*Father Jean Claude, SCJ*

*Deacon Steve McLaughlin*

*Sister Deb Nelson*

### **Pallbearers**

*Willard Caldwell*

*Calvin Hawk*

*Joel Bishop*

*Dawson Bishop*

*Roger Bishop II*

*Rory Bishop, Jr.*

*Corey Bishop, Jr.*

*Lee Wounded Knee*

### **Honorary Pallbearers**

*Marilyn Wells*

*Ina Kopfmann*

*Sandy Abernathy*

*Phylliss Comes Flying*

*Denise Archambeau*

*Rozelle Lockwood*

*Sanford Cancer Center of Sioux Falls*

*Lode Star Casino*

### **Interment**

*Lakeview Cemetery*

*Fort Thompson, SD*

**Arrangements By:** *Hickey Funeral Home, Chamberlain, SD*

Bernadine Lorraine (White Mouse) Gingway, was born March 11, 1948 to Wilmer White Mouse, Sr. and Magdaline Santee White Mouse. Bernadine passed away on November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at Sanford Medical Center in Chamberlain, SD at the age of 73.

She attended grade school at Fort Thompson and High School at Gann Valley. She worked as a kitchen aide at the Fort Thompson Grade School, a CHR for the Crow Creek Tribe, and a teacher's aide at Head Start before starting her career at the Lode Star Casino beginning in May 1993 as a cocktail waitress and worked slots. She briefly worked at the Golden Buffalo Casino before returning to the Lode Star where she worked slots and then became Manager on Duty. She retired from the Lode Star after 28 years in January of 2021.

She was married to Willard Grey Cloud in 1965. Two children were born to this union; Frederick Grey Cloud and Mable (Grey Cloud) Horned Eagle.

On July 3, 1973 she married Roger Bishop. Four children were born to this union; Rory Bishop, Corey Bishop, Lori Bishop and Jolene Bishop.

On December 5, 1991 she was married to Robert Gingway and divorced in 1994.

Bernadine enjoyed spending time with family and friends. She always loved having time to talk and share with others. She enjoyed her daily phone calls with her Hunka sister Phyliss Comes Flying and her friend Marilyn Wells. She loved her bingo and was proud to run Thursday night bingo for St. Joseph's Church since 1987. She enjoyed playing cards, going to the casino, and listening to Brulé and her Gospel music.

She is survived by five of her children; Frederick (Joy) Grey Cloud, Mable (Matt) Horned Eagle, Rory (Annie) Bishop, Lori Bishop, and Jolene Bishop, special granddaughter Kinslee Rose Bishop along with 20 more grandchildren and 24 great grandchildren, sister Renee (Jeff) White Mouse, nieces and nephews too numerous to mention, and a special God daughter Doreen Bagola.

Preceding her in death were her parents Magdaline and Wilmer White Mouse, eleven brothers and sisters, her husband's Willard Grey Cloud and Roger Bishop, her son Corey Bishop, Sr., and three granddaughters.

Special thanks to her Oncology team at Sanford Cancer Center, Sioux Falls SD; Sanford Medical Center, Chamberlain, SD; Fort Thompson IHS. Specific thanks to Dr. John Mcfee, Dr. Keely Hack, Nurse Helen Pickner, Field Health Nurse Kathleen Weston, and thanks especially to Nurse Emily Ducheneaux at Sanford Chamberlain who was a great comfort in her last days.



*In Loving Memory Of*  
***Bernadine Lorraine***  
***(White Mouse) Gingway***

*1948 ~ 2021*