

Rhonda Lea Martens was born to Walter and Diana Martens on August 10, 1973 in Swift Current Saskatchewan. As first-time parents, we thought she exhibited all the behaviors one normally expects. She was contented, smiled, laughed, slept, ate well, enjoyed music and pictures.

However, In the months following her first birthday, we began to have concerns about her physical and mental development. In 1975, Rhonda was diagnosed with Ring Chromosome 22, a very rare condition that would affect Rhonda in all aspects, but mostly neurologically.

In the Fall of 1978, Rhonda began attending a special class in Herbert for developmentally challenged children. After 2 years, she attended Kindergarten for 3 years. At age 11, a decision was made to place her with the grade 3 class, and from thereon she progressed together with her classmates. An individualized program to suit her needs and abilities was planned and supervised by a resource teacher and was carried out by her teacher aides. Rhonda was included in all activities as her interests and abilities allowed. She graduated from Herbert School in 1994.

In November of 1995, Rhonda became a resident of the Herbert Group Home and remained there until the end of 2016. She enjoyed the 21 years she lived there interacting with the residents and staff.

As time passed, Rhonda's mobility decreased and the decision was made to have her live in the Herbert & District Integrated Facility in January 2017, where she remained until her passing on September 1, 2020.

Rhonda was predeceased by her mother, Diana; her 2 uncles and their wives, Elmer and Phyllis Martens, and Menno and Annabelle Martens.

Rhonda is survived by her father, Walter, and stepmother, Merrilyn; her brothers, Bruce (Stephanie) and their children, Sophia and Lucas; Dale (Kim) and their children, Reece, Chloe, and Jack; her uncles and aunts, Orlando and Verna Martens, Rudy and Verna Reimer, Melvin and Velma Wiens, Dan and Carol Siebert, and Ken and Elaine Isaak; and numerous cousins.

Words alone cannot express our gratitude as a family to the many people in Rhonda's life who helped to care for her with love and compassion. Thank you for your support and encouragement.

In Loving Memory of

RHONDA LEA MARTENS

BORN – August 10, 1973 at Swift Current, SK

MOVED FROM HERBERT, SK TO GLORY – September 1, 2020

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Saturday, September 5, 2020 at 11:30 am

Main Centre MB Church Cemetery, Main Centre, SK



ORDER OF SERVICE

PROCESSIONAL

WELCOME & PRAYER – Pastor Donovan

HYMN – *“When I’m Lonely and Defenseless”*

EULOGY & SHARING – Walter, Bruce, Dale Martens, Carol Siebert

SPECIAL MUSIC – *“Wings of an Eagle,”* Dan and Michael Siebert

SCRIPTURE & MEDITATION – Pastor Donovan

HYMN – *“Blessed Assurance”*

CLOSING PRAYER & BENEDICTION – Pastor Donovan

RECESSIONAL – *“If You Could See Me Now”*



OFFICIATING – Pastor Donovan Epp

PALLBEARERS – Rhonda's Family

LUNCHEON – Immediately following the service at Dan & Carol Siebert's farm, one mile east of the Main Centre Church. All are welcome.

DONATIONS – Charity of the donor's choice

ARRANGEMENTS – Swift Current Funeral Home

Heaven's Special Child

A meeting was held quite far from earth
"It's time again for another birth,"
said the Angels to the Lord above,
"This special child will need much love.

Her progress may seem very slow,
accomplishments she may not show.
And she'll require extra care
from the folks she will meet down there.

She may not run or laugh or play,
her thoughts may seem quite far away.
In many ways she won't adapt
and she will be known as handicapped.

So let's be careful where she is sent,
we want her life to be content.
Please Lord, find the parents who
will do a special job for You.

They will not realize right away
the leading role they're asked to play,
But with this child sent from above
comes stronger faith and richer love.

And soon they'll know the privilege given
in caring for this gift from Heaven.
Their precious charge, so meek and mild,
is Heaven's very special child."



At Home with Jesus

Rhonda Lea Martens

1973 – 2020