

Remembering the life of ...

Gwen Bissette Hejl, 62, Amenia, ND passed away on Friday, Aug. 9, 2019 at her home surrounded by family and with Hospice of the RRV.

Gwen Bissette was born Oct. 14, 1956 at Louisburg, NC to John and Dorothy (Tant) Bissette. She grew up at Raleigh, NC where she graduated from Wm G. Enloe High School. Gwen continued her schooling at Appalachian State College in Boone, NC. Gwen met William Hejl in September of 1978 and the two were married on June 23, 1979 at Longview Baptist Church in Raleigh. They lived and served across the US with the US Air Force. They then made their home near Amenia where they farmed. She also worked as a paraprofessional at the Central Cass School in Casselton, ND. She also worked on the National Journey Storys Project.

Gwen's life revolved around her family. She loved spending time with her husband, children, grandchildren and friends. She also loved



the ocean, surfing, ziplining, going for long walks, making holidays and birthdays special and finding reasons to celebrate those around her. Gwen was a ray of sunshine to everyone she met. She brought a sense of joy into everything she did and made everyone around her feel special. Her influence will live on through those whose lives she touched.

She is survived by her husband, Bill; three children, Laura (Scott) Strand, Phyllis Carol (Jesse) HejlStone and John (Sarah) Hejl; six grandchildren, Devin, Jayden, Jocelyn, Cora, Ziggy and Chloe; her mother, Dorothy and a brother, John Bissette.

Gwen was preceded in death by her father, John.



In Loving Memory

Gwen Bissette Hejl



THE SWAN

*The laboring of
ours with all that
remains undone,
as if still bound
to it, is like the
lumbering gait of
the swan.*

*And then our dying -
releasing ourselves from the
very ground on which we stood -
Is like the way he hesitantly lowers
himself into the water. It gently receives
him, and, gladly yielding, flows back beneath
him, as wave follows wave, while he,
now wholly serene and sure, with
regal composure, allows himself to glide.*

by Rainer Maria Rilke

A Celebration of life for GWEN BISSETTE HEJL

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SERVICE

West Funeral Home Chapel
West Fargo, North Dakota
Saturday, August 17, 2019 - 10:30 a.m.

OFFICIANT

The Rev. Nathan Richman
Hospice of the Red River Valley - Fargo, ND

READER

John Bissette

MUSIC

CD Selections from Gwen's home church,
Longview Baptist - Garner Keel vocalist
Judy Parrott accompanist
"How Great Thou Art"
"Amazing Grace" "The Prayer"

HONORARY PALLBEARERS

Gwen's Children and their spouses
Laura & Scott, Carol & Jesse, John & Sarah

*The family wishes to express their appreciation for your
kindness and support during this difficult time. Please join
them for fellowship immediately following the service.*