



## Ann Renee Vandrovec

August 19, 1949 - January 9, 2024

Ann Renee Vandrovec, 74 passed away on Tuesday, January 9th, at SMP Health-St. Raphael in Valley City, ND. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held 10:00 am, Monday, January 15 at St. Raphael Chapel in SMP Health-St. Raphael, Valley City.

Ann's full service will be viewable at <https://vimeo.com/903002407>

Ann was born on August 19th, 1949, to Tony and Irene C. Vandrovec in Valley City, ND. Ann attended school at the Open Door Center from age 9 to 52 (no wonder she used to say "oh mom I'm sick of school" She lived at home with her family. After her father died in 1973, Ann's mother was her primary care giver until Ann entered the Sheyenne Care Center at age 52.

Ann enjoyed helping her mom with many household chores, watering flowers, picking apples from their apple orchard, making coffee, singing, and keeping a close eye on everything going on outside while sitting in her favorite chair by the window. Ann could be seen there waving at everybody that went by and reporting to mom all activity going on at the hospital or informing mom which one of the kids were not behaving! Ann enjoyed and participated in music, singing and dancing with mom to noon time "polka party "on the radio.

Ann also enjoyed sports, wishing she could play and would sneak her

brother's football helmet, duffle bag, bats and claim them as hers by writing her name on everything. She could throw a pretty mean baseball in her day - so watch out if that left hand was swinging!

Ann's last 22 years were spent living with her second family at the Sheyenne Care Center now known as SMP Health-St. Raphael in Valley City, ND. Music was one of the highlights of her life there. Ann's favorites, (which could be heard loudly on second floor, music events and the chapel) were "Down in the Valley", "Jesus Loves Me", and "When the Saints go Marching in"! Her favorite pass time while sitting at her table in her pod overlooking the sports field, was playing cards. Ann's game was flipping UNO cards-matching them to the right color or number. If a family member was playing with her, she would make sure they got in the right pile or they could expect a good tap on the hand! Ann also felt it her duty to be the "floor monitor". If anyone was out of line or in need of help, she would yell "hey lights on"!

Ann will be remembered for frequently used one-liners, "That's right", "Told you so", "Afraid not", just to name a few!

Ann was a loving happy person with a contagious smile. She will be sadly missed but never forgotten by her immediate family and her second family, the staff at St. Raphael's.

Ann is survived by two sisters and three brothers, Eugene (Alicia), Alexandria, VA, Michael (Kathy), Fargo, ND, Jane (Tim) Kelley, Cottage Grove, MN, Linda (Bob) Retterath, Green Bay, WI and Neil (Jill) Vandrovec, Valley City, ND. She is also survived by two sister in-laws, Beverly Vandrovec, Fargo, ND, Marlyse Vandrovec, Nacogdoches, TX, 14 nieces and nephews and several great nieces and nephews. Ann is preceded in death by her parents, Tony and Irene, two brothers, Ronald and Robert and one great nephew, Tate Warpinski.

A very special thank you to all Ann's care givers and staff of St. Raphael for their loving care and kindness they have shown to Ann over the many years.

## Cemetery Details

### St. Catherine Cemetery

Valley City, ND

## Previous Events

### Funeral Mass

JAN 15. 10:00 AM (CT)

St. Raphael's Chapel in SMP Health - St. Raphael, Valley City  
979 Central Ave North  
Valley City, ND 58072

# Tribute Wall

JA

“ Thinking of Annie, She always had a smile and a chin lift for you and the best hugs. On her trips to Texas to visit us, I remember her being so excited sitting by the front window giving the play by play of all the events. She would let us know with much enthusiasm when my brothers or sister got off the bus! She was so excited to have a cowgirl hat and vest in Texas. We will miss her dearly. It was so nice to be able to see the video of her service since we could not be there in person. I loved it ending with "When the Saints Go Marching In". I remember her singing it many times when we saw her. "That's Right!"

Love you Annie, Jessica (niece), Lee, Collin, and Connor, and the rest of the Bob Vandrovec clan in Texas

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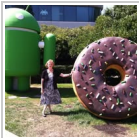
**Jessica Aheron** - January 20, 2024 at 05:55 PM

AD

“ To the family and friends of Ann Vandrovec, I am sorry for the loss of your dear loved one. Something that I have learned about from studying the Bible, is the hope it holds for our dead loved ones. It teaches that God can awaken the dead as if from sleep and give them life again on earth. Until that appointed time they are in His memory. It will warm your heart to know that God cares deeply for those who are grieving. By prayer we can gain “the peace of God”, which can help us with the grieving process. I hope this short thought can bring you some comfort and hope.

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**April D** - January 17, 2024 at 08:46 PM



“ Thinking of Ann and her brothers and sisters as I recall how we (cousins) all used to play when you all would visit us on the farm. Good times...long ago!

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**Donna James** - January 16, 2024 at 05:25 PM

ME

“ *I met her many years ago when she was only a teenager, but I never forgot her. So through all this years, in my memory she has always been that thin smiling girl with a heart of gold. Rest in peace my dear Ann.*

*Maria Elena*

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**Maria Elena** - January 15, 2024 at 11:29 AM

SV

“ I was so saddened to hear when Annie had passed. I have many fond memories of fun times with Annie as I was growing up in Valley City. Her compassionate heart and love for others was evident to all that knew her. Annie shared with me how to give a true hug to someone. I've always heard that if you want to give a good hug to someone it's about an 8 second hug. Well, I just call them “Annie Hugs”. Some of my other wonderful memories of Annie were playing catch with her. She would quickly remind me how to catch a baseball correctly in your glove as she would throw some heat into your glove if you were not paying attention. She would follow it up with one of her sayings when you made a good catch, “That's a good thing to do!” Annie always had a couple jobs for me when I stopped by. There always seemed to be a light bulb that was out that she would bring to my attention showing me where the replacement bulbs were. Again, sharing that saying that still makes me smile, “That's a good thing to do!” when I finished. Annie always brought joy into your day or make you chuckle with a funny saying that she would add. I thank the Lord for sharing her in my life early on in life. Little parts of her will live on in all of us for sure. I know our Lord, Grandpa Tony, Grandma Irene, Uncle Ron, and Uncle Bob were all there eagerly waiting for one of her famous “Annie Hugs”. And I'm sure she followed it up with a “That's a good thing to do!”

*Love you and will miss you Ann, Shawn (Nephew), Christa, Maddox and Mariah*

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**Shawn Vandrovec** - January 15, 2024 at 10:39 AM

TM

*Very sweet tribute! Wonderful memories to cherish about her. Thank you for sharing!*

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**Theresa McClellan** - January 15, 2024 at 01:48 PM

EV

“ We love you, Annie, and know that you’re in a much better place now. Masses have been set for your intention on May 5 and May 27 at our local church.

Love,  
Eugene, Alicia, Bryan, Jenny (and her family)



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**Eugene Vandrovec** - January 14, 2024 at 01:20 PM

JS

“ I was a small part in Ann's life, but she has a big place in my heart  
❤️ I will miss her.

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**Jan Schmitt** - January 13, 2024 at 06:37 PM

J(

“ We will surely miss ANN. She made our family more caring and compassionate. She had a very sweet smile and was a very good ,strong hugger.  
She had some great sayings. I will add a few more..when the phone rang at home she would call out "get the phone ". "My birthday 's coming up August 19" ,no matter what month it was. "That's right JANE" ,my favorite! She liked many songs "Jesus loves me".  
"When the saints go marching in" and "Take that job and shove it" and she could belt them out!.  
She loved her baseball, and would yell out "Mickey Mantle hit that ball and what a crack". She would laugh out loud and we all would too. Everytime she laughed we all did, we couldn't help it!!  
RIP. ANN  
Love you always  
JANE, Tim, and family ❤️

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**Jane Kelley (sister)** - January 12, 2024 at 06:38 PM

MV

“ We are all saddened by our loss of Annie. She had a quick trip to heaven and reunited with Mom and Dad as well as her two brothers, Ron and Bob.  
Ann was a young lady of few words but she had some great one liners:  
“That's right!, That's a good thing to do! Afraid not!, Oh Mom!.”  
Ann made her birthday and Christmas special for her and the whole family with here big smile and laughs as she opened presents. Ann will be missed by all but never forgotten.

We love you Annie,  
Mike & Kathy Vandrovec and family

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**Mike & Kathy Vandrovec** - January 11, 2024 at 03:26 PM

EH

“ *Estelle Hanson lit a candle in memory of Ann Renee Vandrovec*



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**estelle hanson** - January 11, 2024 at 11:25 AM

EH

“ *I am saddened to hear that Ann has passed away. I was a PM caregiver for her at St. Raphael, VC. I used to call her Little Annie Oakley and she would give a sweet laugh. When I would transfer her to her bed, she would hold on to my neck, would not let go, then give a little giggle. In her own special way she let me know that I was liked by her, My sympathy to all of Ann's family. Estelle Hanson Valley City, ND*

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**estelle hanson** - January 11, 2024 at 11:25 AM

LR

*Thank you so much for that sweet memory you shared!*

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**Linda Retterath** - January 11, 2024 at 11:54 AM

BJ

*Yes ,Ann gad that special smile. We'd see her at mass at the nursing home when my mother was still there. We always Said hi and she'd smile. Mama will be glad to have her. Sympathy and prayers to the family. Betty Johnson.*

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**Betty Johnson** - January 11, 2024 at 05:19 PM

GG

*With sympathy to your family for her passing. She was truly loved by her family.*

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**Gigi Goven** - January 12, 2024 at 03:37 PM

LH

*I just had the chance to see Annie's service online. So dear and so sweet. and I loved learning Down in the Valley was her favorite song. How appropriate for an Valley girl and the words are perfect for Annie! Whenever we would come driving up from Texas I remember Annie sitting at the window waiting to see us drive up to the house. She would get so excited to see us especially her Aunt Nellie. I somehow knew Ann kept track of everything thing that went on in the house and watched over everybody.*

*Annie knew she had a place in the family and in the world. Can't get much better than that! Much love to her family from us down in Texas. I know you will miss her and I know Aunt Irene and Uncle Tony are happy to see her. Aunt Nellie too!*

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**Laurie Hart** - January 19, 2024 at 11:05 AM

JV

*God had her in a "very special place" for her on earth. My condolences to the family. Jim Vandrovec*

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**james vandrovec** - February 09, 2024 at 02:00 AM