



Elaine Marilyn Manstrom

May 27, 1946 - August 4, 2019

Elaine Marilyn Manstrom, 73, of Valley City, ND passed away August 4, 2019 at Eventide in Fargo under the care of hospice with her family by her side.

Elaine was born May 27, 1946 in Valley City to Harold and Lisabet (Lovaas) Lockwood. She grew up in Kathryn, ND and graduated in 1964 from Kathryn High School. Elaine continued her education at Valley City State College earning her bachelor's degree in education and a minor in music and English. Elaine loved music and enjoyed playing trumpet in the VCSC marching band. She became an excellent piano player and even taught piano to students. Later in her career, she went back to earn a Reading Certification for Title One Reading.

Elaine married Leslie Manstrom in 1967 and eventually made their home on a farm south of Valley City. They had one daughter, Bethany. Elaine worked hard all of her life and really had a passion for teaching. Her teaching career began at Jefferson Elementary School in Valley City teaching music for one year. Elaine then taught music in Fingal, ND to help complete the school year when their teacher was unable. She took a short break from teaching to raise her beloved daughter and assist Les on the farm. Elaine did everything from bottle feeding new calves and tending cattle to being a regular behind the wheel of a grain truck. When Bethany was in elementary school, Elaine went back to teaching in Kathryn where she taught music and seventh and eighth grade English. During this time, Elaine and her students put on spectacular musical productions, which drew large crowds from the surrounding

communities. She put many hours of work into these performances, but was always very humble about her role and was so proud of her students. Elaine shared in administrative duties in 1990-1991 as the Kathryn school was preparing to close. Elaine then hit the road and commuted to Verona, ND for seven years and then finished her career in Litchville, ND. After seven years there, her heart as kind and generous as it was, started giving Elaine trouble, forcing her to retire from teaching.

Elaine loved going on drives around the country side and looking at crops with Les. She also loved Mexican food and spending time with her friends. Elaine enjoyed bingo and more often than not, she came out a winner. She was also an avid reader and always had crossword puzzles and word find books with her.

She is survived by her husband Les of Valley City; daughter Bethany (Kendall) Harms; grandsons; Seth Fontaine and Owen Harms; and step grandsons, Ben and Jacob Harms, all of Grand Forks, ND. Elaine is also survived by her brother Harold (Erin) Lockwood of Kenai, AK; brother-in-law, Vern Rohde, Anchorage, AK; and many nieces and nephews.

Elaine is preceded in death by her parents, sister Laura Rohde, grandparents and many aunts and uncles.

A celebration of life service will be held at 10:30 am Monday, August 12, 2019 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Valley City. Visitation will be one hour before the service at the church. Burial will be in Memory Gardens, Valley City.

Elaine's family would like to extend a special thank you to the swing bed staff and the Occupational and Physical Therapists of Mercy Hospital, Valley City. Also, another special thank you to the staff of Eventide and Hospice of the Red River Valley for the exceptional care they provided to Elaine and her family.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the Oliver-Nathan Funeral Chapel, Valley City, North Dakota. An online guestbook is available at www.oli-vernathanchapel.com

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 12. 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (CT)

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
138 3rd St. NW
Valley City, ND

Celebration of Life

AUG 12. 10:30 AM (CT)

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
138 3rd St. NW
Valley City, ND

Tribute Wall

MI

“ Beth, I just saw this as I was looking for an obituary of one of our classmates. I'm sorry for your loss. Your family is in my thoughts and prayers.

mitch - October 07, 2019 at 12:05 PM

MB

“ Mrs. Manstrom was my English teacher at Kathryn High School. I also participated in the wonderful plays and musicals that she brought to life on stage at the Kathryn School and Kathryn Hall! I can easily say that she was one of my favorite teachers of all time. She not only made learning fun but she taught us important life lessons along the way. Kind-hearted and always willing to take the time to help, she was a talented educator and a special lady. I will forever treasure the many great memories I have of her. My prayers and thoughts go out to Les and Beth and all of her family.
-Mitch Bjerke, KHS Class of 1989

Mitch Bjerke - August 10, 2019 at 04:39 PM

BN

“ We lived nearby Les and Elaine on 5th Ave SW in Valley city back in the 60's. I worked with Les and we spent some time with Les and Elaine as well before leaving VC in 1972.
Have good memories of them both and we just want to say that our thoughts and prayers are with the family. God Bless!

Bob Linda Nagle - August 09, 2019 at 08:29 PM

CB

“ Dear family, Elaine and I attendee VCSU at the same time. She was in concert band with me. Such a lovely, sweet person! Prayers and sympathy to you.

Carol Winter Bjorge



Carol Winter Bjorge - August 09, 2019 at 08:27 PM

GM

“ So sorry to hear of the passing of your mom Beth. She was very talented and a special lady. We had some fun times together. My sincere sympathy, Georgia

Georgia Manstrom - August 08, 2019 at 10:50 PM

AD

“ Altru Anesthesia Department purchased the Fairest of All for the family of Elaine Marilyn Manstrom.



Altru Anesthesia Department - August 06, 2019 at 01:39 PM