



Kathy Edinger

October 20, 1963 - April 16, 2026

Kathy Edinger, 62, of Valley City, North Dakota, passed away unexpectedly on April 16, 2026. Born in Devils Lake and raised off of the third exit into Oberon, North Dakota, Kathy lived a life full of laughter, love, and an unmistakable mischievous energy that touched everyone who knew her.

To know Kathy was to know joy. She had an unforgettable, infectious laugh that lifted the mood of everyone around her. She was the life of every party, the one who made sure everyone felt included, and the friend who always showed up when it mattered most. Kathy loved to sing, dance, and have a good time and she did it all with a spirit that was entirely her own. And when the night was winding down, she was likely to slip out unannounced and undetected, leaving behind giant smiles and memorable stories in her wake. Above all, Kathy was a caregiver at heart. For more than 30 years, she ran a daycare that became so much more than a job, it became a second home for countless children and families. She nurtured, comforted, taught, and loved many kids and parents over the years, each one leaving her care a little more confident and a little more loved than when they arrived. Her impact reaches far beyond what words can capture.

At home, Kathy was the loving wife to Pat Edinger, whom she married on June 17, 1989, and a best friend to her daughters, Erin and Ashten Edinger. Their favorite memories together will always be the countless concerts they went to, singing at the top of their lungs and occasionally following Kathy to the front as she rushed the stage. Kathy had a knack for crafting of all kinds. If

she decided to try something new, she didn't dabble, she dove in completely, mastering it with enthusiasm and joy. Her favorite days were spent at the lake with family and friends playing cards, blasting music on the pontoon, watching the hummingbirds, and taking as many golf cart rides as possible.

She is survived by her husband, Pat, and her daughters, Erin of Valley City, ND and Ashten of West Fargo, ND; as well as her siblings Sandy Swenson (Dean), Ronnie Olson (Jan), and Leland Olson (Yvonne); her mother-in-law, Moneen Edinger; sister-in-law, Mary Edinger; along with one niece, five nephews, and many cousins who will carry her memory forward. She is also survived by the many children and families she cared for over the years as a daycare provider, who became an extension of her own family and will continue to feel the lasting impact of her love, guidance, and care.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Mathilda and Clifford Wallace, and her father-in-law, Dennis Edinger, all of whom she held close in her heart.

Kathy's life was defined not by titles or achievements, but by love, laughter, and the countless lives she touched along the way. She leaves behind a legacy of warmth, joy, and connection that will continue to live on in the people who knew her.

A prayer service will be held on Tuesday, April 21, 2026, at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, with visitation from 5:00–7:00 p.m. and service at 7:00 p.m.

A celebration of life funeral service will be held Wednesday, April 22, 2026, at the same church, with visitation from 12:30–1:30 p.m. and service at 1:30 p.m.

A private livestream link is available; those interested should inquire through the family. Burial will follow at Hillside Cemetery. Family and friends are invited to remain after the burial for snacks, coffee, and Diet Coke while everyone shares stories and memories of Kathy.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to Traditions Funeral Services, Valley City. An online guestbook is available at www.olivernathanchapel.com

Cemetery Details

Hillside Cemetery

Valley City, ND

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 21. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
138 3rd St NW
Valley City, ND 58072
(701) 845-1328

Prayer Service

APR 21. 7:00 PM (CT)

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

Visitation

APR 22. 12:30 PM - 1:30 PM (CT)

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

Funeral Service

APR **22**. 1:30 PM (CT)

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

Tribute Wall



“ *View and Download the Funeral Program*

Oliver-Nathan Funeral Chapel - April 22 at 12:24 PM



“ *Oliver - Nathan Funeral Chapel created a Tribute Video in memory of Kathy Edinger*



Oliver-Nathan Funeral Chapel - April 19 at 03:49 PM

MI

*Simply beautiful.
Kathy was an amazing, beautiful lady.
My deepest condolences to her family and close friends*

Michelle - April 21 at 10:21 AM



Such a beautiful tribute to the most amazing woman I have ever known!!! Kathy has been the absolute best friend and confidant to me. She has left me with the deepest of emotions, both absolute joy and now overwhelming sadness. She will forever be missed but never forgotten. I cannot convey how much I love this beautiful woman. My condolences and prayers are with Pat, Erin and Ashten as well as her family and friends.

Linda Skramstad - April 21 at 11:24 AM

KF

Sorry to hear about Kathy... so many memories popped up from our time together at college. Sisters of White Star... 3rd floor... Sisters 4 with DeLynn and Cyndi. The road trips we took! She was always a bright spot in my day..

Karen Falk - April 22 at 02:46 PM

DD

My condolences to Kathy's family and friends. I met Kathy at College in Valley City, and we became Sisters of the White Star. So many fun filled memories. Kathy was always quick to brighten the day...

Deb DeVary - April 22 at 04:04 PM

BP

So sorry for your loss! Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Kathy was such a special person and will be greatly missed.

Barry and Lisa Ploium - April 23 at 08:14 PM

JD

So sorry for your loss Pat. It looks like Kathy enjoyed her life with you and your girls along with friends family and kids. I'm sure she will be missed but forever in your hearts.

John

John Drummond - April 25 at 04:25 PM

TL

“ So many memories and good times with Kathy at VCSC! So glad we were a part of each other's lives!



Theresa (Krom) Lang - May 04 at 02:07 PM

CT

“ Sorry to hear about Kathy we were good friends for many years. Had a great time when we were younger. Will miss you my friend. Prays for Pat and girls. Connie Thomas

Connie F Thomas - April 23 at 07:44 PM

MB

“ - A very nice tribute written here for Kathy that really does capture the real person we knew. I first met Kathy in 1984 during college days and we enjoyed many good times and laughs together in those 42 years. This sudden loss will be hard to say the least to accept and to recover from. I will spill a little of my beer on the ground in her memory and honor for a while to come ! ;-)- Mark Breitbach.

Mark Breitbach - April 23 at 06:09 PM

LW

“ *Kathy was truly a beautiful lady inside and out. Her infectious smile and laugh, I always enjoyed visiting with her out at the lake or at the grocery store. She was definitely one of the best care givers in VC and will be missed by many families. Back in the day I use to help her out on occasion and you could tell those kids were all like her own. My thoughts and prayers go out to pat, Erin and Ashton at the time of your loss of your wife & mother. She is definitely an angel watching over you all.*

Lynn Wilson - April 21 at 09:23 AM

AA

“ *Angie, Tim, Kinsey, Chase and Allie purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of Kathy Edinger.*



Angie, Tim, Kinsey, Chase and Allie - April 21 at 09:05 AM

TN

“ *The Bohls, Steven, Melissa, Abby & Nick purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Kathy Edinger.*



The Bohls, Steven, Melissa, Abby & Nick - April 21 at 08:59 AM

HF

“ Hungry Pelican Family purchased the Basket of Memories for the family of Kathy Edinger.



Hungry Pelican Family - April 21 at 08:50 AM

SS

“ Pat and family,

We are so shocked and saddened to hear of Kathy's passing. Hopefully, she did not suffer. We have always remembered you two as excellent neighbors and friends. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Steve & Tana Sly

Steve Sly - April 21 at 08:15 AM



“ So very, very sorry to hear of Kathy's passing. She has had a great influence on so many young lives. She will leave a hole in the community that won't be easily filled. Sending you strength Pat, Erin, and Ashton. Lisa McCulloch

Lisa McCulloch - April 20 at 09:59 PM

SP

“ South Elementary PTA planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Kathy Edinger.

South Elementary PTA - April 20 at 09:45 PM

SP

“ *South Elementary PTA purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Kathy Edinger.*



South Elementary PTA - April 20 at 09:45 PM

KS

“ *Kelsey and Lyndsey Swanson purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Kathy Edinger.*



Kelsey and Lyndsey Swanson - April 20 at 07:09 PM

JM

“ *So sorry to hear about the passing of Kathy. I remember the kindness she and her family showed to my parents. She and her family watched over them when I couldn't be there. She was a bubbly and very caring. My deepest sympathy to you Pat and the girls. Julie and Del McCoy*

Julie McCoy - April 20 at 11:17 AM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Kathy Edinger.*

April 20 at 11:11 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Kathy Edinger.*



April 20 at 11:11 AM



“ *Dan and Brenda Bernhardt & Family purchased the Joyful Memory for the family of Kathy Edinger.*



Dan and Brenda Bernhardt & Family - April 20 at 07:53 AM



“ *Kirk, Brenda, Chelsey, Preston, & Kids purchased the Gracious Lavender Basket for the family of Kathy Edinger.*



Kirk, Brenda, Chelsey, Preston, & Kids - April 20 at 07:41 AM



“ *Kirk, Brenda, Chelsey, Preston, & Kids planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Kathy Edinger.*

Kirk, Brenda, Chelsey, Preston, & Kids - April 20 at 07:41 AM

TC

“ *The Cousins purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of Kathy Edinger.*



The Cousins - April 20 at 01:16 AM

AB

“ *Adam and Kristine Bommersbach purchased the Small Garden Dish for the family of Kathy Edinger.*



Adam and Kristine Bommersbach - April 19 at 08:48 PM

AB

“ *Adam and Kristine Bommersbach planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Kathy Edinger.*

Adam and Kristine Bommersbach - April 19 at 08:48 PM

DS

“ *So very sorry to hear about Kathy. What a beautiful tribute you have shared. Though I didn't know her well, wherever we crossed paths we knew each other and wherever she was always was smiling & very often laughing. What beautiful memories to carry with you. God will carry you thru the many days ahead and praying you will feel his comfort & he will give you peace.*

Diane Sommerfeld - April 19 at 08:42 PM

OF

“ Omlid & Wetzel Families purchased the Rose Reembrance for the family of Kathy Edinger.



Omlid & Wetzel Families - April 19 at 07:43 PM

OF

“ Omlid & Wetzel Families planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Kathy Edinger.

Omlid & Wetzel Families - April 19 at 07:43 PM

CS

“ Dear Kathy's Family. Hearing of her passing was a shocking & sad moment. I recalled all the evenings Sandy & I drove around with Kathy with us. It became a frequent adventure & an easy baby sitting assignment. I haven 't seen Kathy in many years. Reading her obit, she had a beautiful family & an amazing career, It seems Kathy lived a full & meaningful life. Sympathy & Prayers for her family. Sincerely Carla & David Schlabs

Carla Schlabs - April 19 at 05:57 PM

ME

“ Monte Ell purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Kathy Edinger.



Monte Ell - April 19 at 01:47 PM

ME

“ Monte Ell planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Kathy Edinger.

Monte Ell - April 19 at 01:47 PM

AF

“ Allan and :Lisa Howard and Family purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Kathy Edinger.



Allan and :Lisa Howard and Family - April 18 at 02:35 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Kathy Edinger.

April 18 at 02:08 PM



“ Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Kathy Edinger.



April 18 at 02:08 PM

TF

“ The Kunkel Family purchased the Pretty Please for the family of Kathy Edinger.



The Kunkel Family - April 18 at 08:44 AM