



## Rita Mae Grant

March 23, 1961 - March 26, 2022

Rita's funeral service is available at <https://vimeo.com/694153862/778acc6307>

The funeral service for Rita Mae Grant, 61, Valley City, North Dakota will be 10:30 am Wednesday, March 30, 2022 at Oliver-Nathan Funeral Chapel, Valley City. Visitation will be 3 pm – 7 pm Tuesday with a Prayer Vigil at 7 pm at the funeral home. Visitation will continue one hour before the service at the funeral home. Burial will be later in the spring in Memory Gardens. She passed away Saturday, March 26, 2022 at SMP Health-St. Raphael.

Rita Mae Grant was born March 23, 1961, the daughter of Kenneth and Evelyn (Holm) Grant. She attended school at Jefferson Elementary in Valley City. She resided with the Open Door Center, Valley City. Rita loved spending time with family and friends and socialization was always a must do. Through her many jobs and volunteer work she met many people and enjoyed working with them. Rita enjoyed travel and had the opportunity to travel to Hawaii, Branson and Florida. Her participation with Special Olympics brought many opportunities and enjoyment over the years. Rita was one of the original athletes in 1972, competing in different events over the years and bringing home some gold. She traveled to Alaska, New York and Louisiana for Olympics. Rita was inducted into the North Dakota Hall of Fame in 2011.

She was preceded in death by her parents and a sister Mary Jean Hanson.

Rita is survived by her brother Kenneth Grant (Linda), a sister Carol Grant, brother Vernon Grant (Marcy), sister Becky Martinez (Harry), a brother-in-law Kenneth Hansen, and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the Oliver-Nathan Funeral Chapel, Valley City. An online guestbook is available at [www.olivernathanchapel.com](http://www.olivernathanchapel.com)

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 29. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Traditions Funeral Services - Oliver Nathan Funeral Chapel  
251 Central Ave. S.  
Valley City, ND 58072  
(701) 845-2414  
o-nchapel@bektel.com

## Prayer Service

MAR 29. 7:00 PM (CT)

Oliver-Nathan Funeral Chapel  
251 Central Ave. S.  
Valley City, ND 58072

## Visitation

MAR 30. 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (CT)

Traditions Funeral Services - Oliver Nathan Funeral Chapel  
251 Central Ave. S.  
Valley City, ND 58072  
(701) 845-2414  
o-nchapel@bektel.com

## Funeral Service

MAR 30. 10:30 AM (CT)

Oliver-Nathan Funeral Chapel  
251 Central Ave. S.  
Valley City, ND 58072

# Tribute Wall



“ *Oliver - Nathan Funeral Chapel created a Tribute Video in memory of Rita Mae Grant*



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**Oliver-Nathan Funeral Chapel** - March 30, 2022 at 04:36 PM

PO

“ *Dean Otterness and I visited about Rita and the time at Open Door and Special Olympics. Although Dean hasn't seen her for a number of years he remembered how kind Rita was. Sincere condolences to each of Rita's family .... may the memories you share be a comfort and a blessing.*  
*Phyllis Otterness*

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**Phyllis Otterness** - April 05, 2022 at 11:43 AM

PY

“ *What beautiful memories that have been shared about Rita. Thinking of all you at this difficult time. Pat (Rutherford) Yoghourtjian*

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**Pat Yoghourtjian** - March 30, 2022 at 03:27 PM

 Ludvik  
Herrera

“ *We remember Rita's happy personality during our family reunions. She was always happy to share hugs and laughs, and a good sci-fi movie, too. We'll miss her and her great energy. With love from Pato, Alessa, Miro, Isa, Mindy, and Ludvik (Herrera Grant).*



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**Ludvik Herrera** - March 30, 2022 at 12:38 PM

GG

“ Cousin Rita could toss a shotput and lift weights with the best of many and always with a smile but then a quick interest in how far or how much she had reached. She could joke with the best of jokesters (including her Uncle Wayne who she always knew and always remembered) and she could show her beautiful shy side in the sweetest of ways. I've seen her at work, among her housemates, with her family, and in the seriousness of Special Olympics competitions from Valley City to the FargoDome. Can't say I ever saw her doing farm work on our Cuba visits, but then she had the best and some of the strongest and most hard-working farmhand brothers and sisters a youngest sibling could ever imagine being among maybe doing all the work for her. And if you never knew Rita's secret "love," it was Michael Jackson and his rocking music! So long, sweet, sweet Rita, you made us all as better as we could be. Cousin Gary Grant in Virginia.



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**Gary Grant** - March 29, 2022 at 08:15 PM

MG

“ Rita always wanted to know what was new with you. So personable, happy and living in the moment. She loved her taco pizza on her birthday!  
I will miss her.  
Mindy

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**Mindy Grant** - March 29, 2022 at 04:25 PM

CN

“ Our sympathy. Tom & Caral Nix

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**Caral Nix** - March 29, 2022 at 01:16 PM

CG

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



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**Carol Grant** - March 29, 2022 at 09:49 AM

CG

*Loved traveling to South Dakota to visit Becky and family.*

**Carol Grant** - March 29, 2022 at 09:51 AM

CG

“ 1 file added to the album *Memories Album*



**Carol Grant** - March 29, 2022 at 09:44 AM

CG

*Birthdays are best celebrated with pizza*

**Carol Grant** - March 29, 2022 at 09:47 AM

CG

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



**Carol Grant** - March 29, 2022 at 09:31 AM

CG

*Bowling - Sno Shoe - Athlete Hall of Fame*

**Carol Grant** - March 29, 2022 at 09:37 AM

TH

“ *Rita always made me laugh and realize I should try to be as happy as she is!  
Miss you Aunt Rita! I bet your singing with your music in Heaven.*



**Tony Hansen** - March 28, 2022 at 10:47 PM

LG

“ 1 file added to the album *Ritas Family*



**Linda Grant** - March 28, 2022 at 12:44 PM

LG

*Rita's Family*

**Linda Grant** - March 28, 2022 at 12:46 PM

RK

“ *Rita always knew how to cheer a person up when they were having a bad day. RIP Rita.* 🙏



**Robin Kinney** - March 28, 2022 at 11:12 AM

FF

“ *From Bob and Marcie Hannig's family purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Rita Mae Grant.*



**From Bob and Marcie Hannig's family** - March 28, 2022 at 10:48 AM

MF

“ *Martinez Family purchased the Sweet Tenderness for the family of Rita Mae Grant.*



**Martinez Family** - March 28, 2022 at 10:00 AM

CG

“ We are so sorry for your loss and simply cannot imagine how much all of you will miss Rita. Our paths only crossed a few times but each meeting left beautiful memories. Rita had an infectious smile and was always so welcoming. I will never forget meeting Rita for the first time as a very young girl on the farm. She was the light in the room! I hope all the happy memories of Rita give you comfort. With love, Chris Grant

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**Christine Grant** - March 28, 2022 at 09:46 AM

JP

“ Rita and I shared the same birthday month and always looked forward to our special luncheon date every year. She always had a smile on her face and was always willing to help with things when asked. RIP Rita - Jane Plecity



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**Jane Plecity** - March 28, 2022 at 05:46 AM