



Wanda Lee Heurung

August 16, 2020

Wanda Lee (Larson) Heurung

Age 79, of Brooklyn Park passed away in 2020 following a courageous battle against cancer. Preceded in death by loving husband of 57 years, Bill; siblings Leroy "Duke" (Betty), Pernel "Penny" Waage (Bruce), Monica Laska (Henry), Paul (Sheryl) and parents James and Evelyn. Survived by loving daughter Jodi (Eric & Lauren Stendahl), siblings James, Loretta Mondry (Ernest, deceased) and Alton (Kathy).

Wanda was born in Britton, South Dakota in 1941, the 6th of 8 children. She was a member of the Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate of the Lake Traverse Reservation and was immensely proud of her Native American roots. Her mother passed away when she was only 7 after which she and her young siblings were relocated to Minnesota where they lived with her eldest sister, her husband and their family. As a teen-ager, she worked as a nanny until she graduated from high school in 1959. Over the years, Wanda worked many jobs including managing a property investment company. She also volunteered at the local elementary school. Following retirement, she and Bill volunteered countless hours helping others.

Throughout her life, Wanda was recognized for her energy, strength, fortitude, positive attitude, hospitality, compassion and kind-hearted nature. She was a

high-energy woman who never accepted defeat and believed all things were possible. She found great joy in being a wife and mother and, largely influenced by having lost her own mother at such a young age, together with Bill provided a home and the love only a parent can to 45 foster children.

She is described by her niece as “the best auntie ever” and was affectionately referred to as “Nanny” or “Gramma” by the neighborhood children. She loved family and had diverse interests that included reading, crossword puzzles, western genre movies and serials, murder/mysteries, country music, dancing, animals, treasure hunting/thrift shopping, playing pull tabs and the nickel slots. Regardless of the activity, no matter what Wanda did, doing it with Bill made it that much better.

Wanda will be remembered fondly for her commitment to family and her pride in her Native American ancestry; for her endless capacity to love and help others, strength of character, tenacity and generosity. Her spirit will live on in the hearts of those she knew.

Memorial Service and Interment at future date.

In lieu of flowers, please direct memorials honoring Wanda’s pride in her heritage and love of children to the Saint Joseph’s Indian School in Chamberlain, South Dakota. <https://www.stjo.org/>

Cemetery Details

Hillside Crematory

2610 19th Ave NE
Minneapolis, MN 55418

Tribute Wall

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“ 14 files added to the album Family



Scheduledesk - August 24, 2020 at 10:31 AM