



The Life of Betty Rehfuss

Funeral services were held for Betty Rehfuss, age 61, of Bottineau, ND at 10:30 a.m. on April 24, 2013, at Our Saviors Lutheran Church in Bottineau. Officiating at the service was Rev. Joshua Reimche. The organist was Avonne Gessner and soloist was Sarah Thompson. Casket bearers were Chuck Lura, Larry Brooks, Tim Davis, Wendal

Cushing, David Slyter and Doug Bremner. Interment will be in Groton Union Cemetery, Groton, SD.

- Betty Rehfuss, daughter of Charles (Eldy) and Irene (Osman) Rehfuss, was born on March 4, 1952, in Aberdeen, South Dakota. Betty was raised in Groton, SD and graduated from Groton High School in 1970. Betty continued her education and graduated with a BS and MS in Mathematics from Northern State University, Aberdeen, SD. She worked in the family grocery store and was lifeguard at the Groton Swimming Pool for 8 years teaching hundreds of children to swim. Betty also taught high school math for one year in Rutland, SD. She then moved north to Bottineau, ND where she worked as an Admissions Counselor for a year at NDSU-Bottineau Branch and Institute of Forestry. She then accepted a math position at the college, the present day Dakota College at Bottineau. This was Betty's 36th year teaching math. She consistently demanded from her students, "show your work!"

- At the college Betty was involved in the annual Math Counts and the Tri-County Spelling Bee. For many years the shot clock for basketball games at the college knew her touch. Betty served on numerous college committees and acted in several college plays and community plays.

- As a community member Betty worked at the Bottineau Food Pantry during summers and delivered Meals-on-Wheels. She served others at the Bottineau Community Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners. She was treasurer for Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, and was active in the Turtle Mt. Cancer Support group. Singing lifted Betty's spirits and she sang with the Bottineau Community Choir for many years, was their president, and always had some jokes and "stories" that pertained to the upcoming song.

- Singing led Betty to the choir at Our Saviors Lutheran Church in Bottineau. As a faithful member she attended weekly services, brought and served food

for funeral luncheons, served as editor of the pictorial directory, served on committees, and whatever else was asked of her.

- Betty's faith in her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, was deep and sincere. Her Mayo Clinic journal regularly acknowledged God's influence in the events that shaped her life over the past 5 years as she courageously faced the uncertainties of cancer. After one of her challenging days traveling to Rochester MN and contending with treatments, she wrote "Once again, God worked out everything for the good!!! It turned into a perfect day!"
- Betty liked to walk. It fit her lifestyle. Possibly the only time she slowed down from walking was to say kind words and apply a gentle hand on someone's cat or dog. She enjoyed visiting with people while she walked and would have "stories" to tell of recent happenings. Betty was an excellent listener and faced each day as a new adventure. She liked visits to the Dairy Dipper II, Saturday afternoon coffee with friends, crab melt sandwiches and dog and cat sitting. She attended many benefits for cancer survivors.
- Betty died on Wednesday, April 17, 2013 on arrival to a Bottineau hospital.
- She was preceded in death by her parents and grandparents.
- Betty is survived by her brother and sister-in-law, Ron and Kathryne Rehfuss of Orange, Texas; nephew and his wife, Heath and Juli Rehfuss of Houston, Texas; niece, Allana Levens of Bridge City, Texas; niece and her husband, Jada and Matt Phillips of Houston, Texas. Betty is also survived by grand-nieces Hallie and Jady Stack-Levens and Elise Rehfuss, as well as grand-nephews Samuel and Henry Phillips and Gabriel Rehfuss. She is also survived by one first cousin and wife, Neal and Elesya Osman, their children and grandchildren.
- Many people could tell some facet about Betty and her life. If these were woven stories they would make a beautiful tapestry that would say, 'Betty made a difference in life to many people.' She will be missed.
- Ron and Kathryne would like to extend their deepest thanks and appreciation to Pastor Reimche and Sue Roeder for their gracious, heart-felt assistance in the arrangements for Betty's farewell and to all those who assisted Betty during her treatments.
- Memorials can be made to Hope Lodge, Rochester, MN, the American Cancer Society, or Gideons International at PO Box 445, Orange TX 77631.