

Diana “Diane” Rowena (Gerlich) Leveque, 65, passed away October 1, 2023 after a hard-fought battle with cancer, at Monument Health Rapid City.

Diana Leveque was born on August 15, 1958 in Alliance, NE, to Ernst and Irma Gerlich and was the youngest of three children. In October of 1966 her family moved to Deadwood, SD, where she attended school and graduated from Lead-Deadwood High School in 1976.

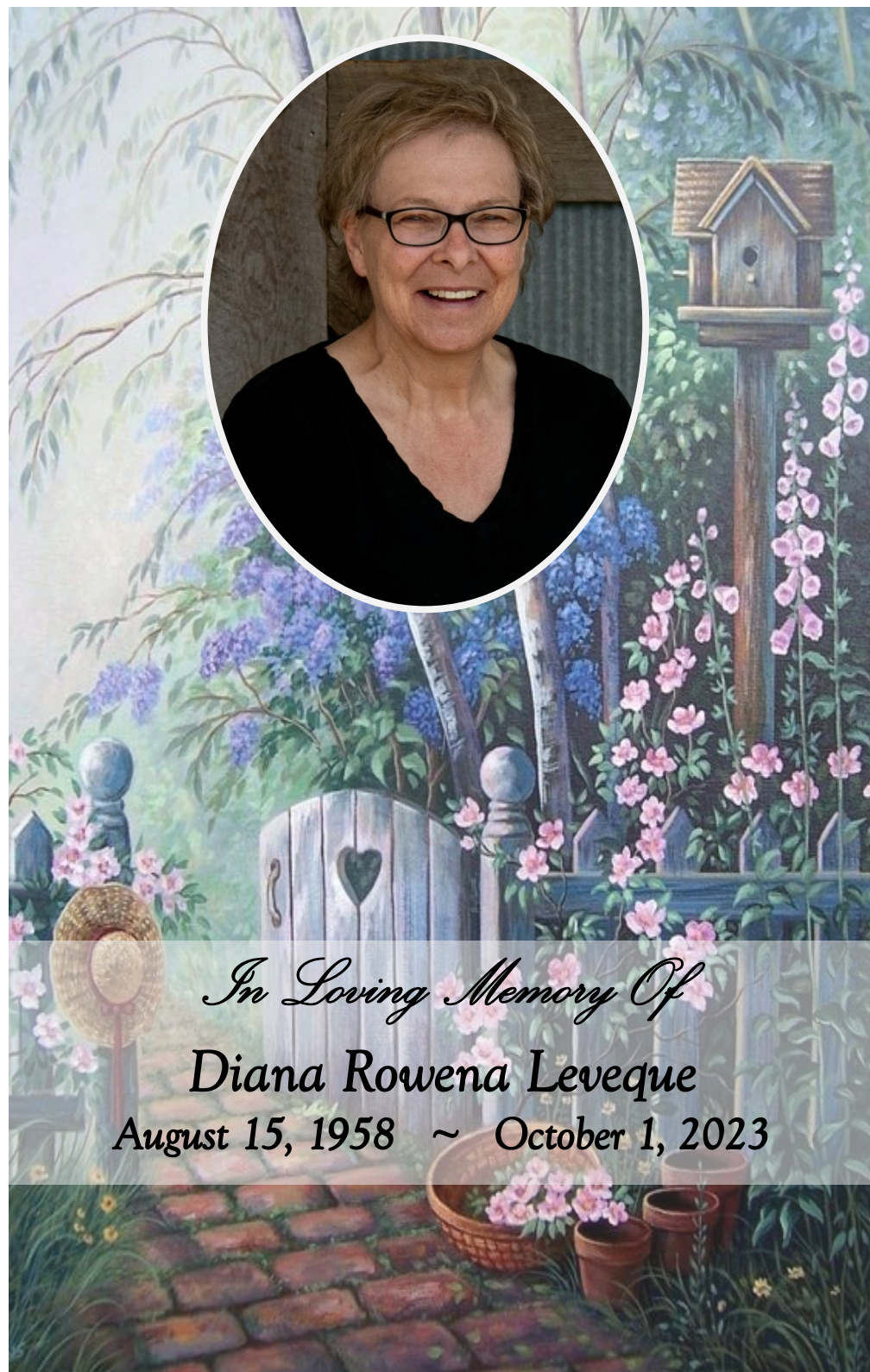
Diana spent several years making Black Hills Gold jewelry at Thorpes. She met Michael “Babe” Leveque in 1982 and they married on June 24, 1985. They moved to Pennsylvania where they had their one and only daughter, Brittany before moving back to South Dakota and making Sturgis their home. They raised their daughter and made many lifelong friends. Diana took on the role of the bookkeeper for their family business and excelled in this role for over 20 years. Diana was an amazing wife, sister, daughter, aunt, and friend but her most significant roles were being a mother and grandmother. Diana was able to help care for both her grandchildren so they did not have to attend daycare until they both started preschool. She poured her heart and soul into her daughter Brittany, her two grandchildren, Seth and Tessa, and her “grandpuppy” Roxy. She also acted as a second mom and grandma to many. She had the biggest, most caring heart and would do anything for anyone.

She is preceded in death by her mother, Irma Gerlich (2007) and father, Ernst Gerlich (2012).

She is survived by her husband, Michael Leveque of Sturgis, SD; daughter, Brittany (Leon) Paugh of Rapid City, SD; grandchildren, Seth and Tessa Paugh of Rapid City, SD; brother, Karl (Betty) Gerlich of Omaha, NE; sister, Regina Gerlich of St. Onge, SD; nephew, Travis (Sarah) Gerlich of Sturgis, SD; great nephew, Bryce Gerlich, and many other special nieces and nephews and great nieces and nephews.

Condolences may be sent to the family at www.kinkadefunerals.com.

Thank you for your presence and condolences.



If Tomorrow Never Comes



*If I knew it would be the last time that I'd see you fall asleep,
I would tuck you in more tightly and pray the Lord your soul to keep.*

*If I knew it would be the last time that I'd see you walk out the door,
I would give you a hug and kiss and call you back for one more.*

*If I knew it would be the last time I'd hear your voice lifted up in praise, I
would video tape each action and word, so I could play them back day after day.*

If I knew it would be the last time, I could spare an extra minute or two to stop and say, "I love you," instead of assuming you would KNOW I do.

If I knew it would be the last time I would be there to share your day, well, I'm sure you'll have so many more, so I can just let this one slip away.

For surely there's always tomorrow to make up for an oversight and we always get a second chance to make everything right.

*There will always be another day to say our "I love you's"
and, certainly there's another chance to say our "Anything I can do's?"*

*But, just in case I might be wrong, and today is all I get,
I'd like to say how much I love you and I hope we never forget.*

*Tomorrow is not promised to anyone, young or old alike,
and today may be the last chance you get to hold your loved one tight.*

So, if you're waiting for tomorrow, why not do it today? For, if tomorrow never comes, you'll surely regret the day that you didn't take that extra time for a smile, a hug, or a kiss and you were too busy to grant someone what turned out to be their one last wish.

*So, hold your loved ones close today, whisper in their ear,
tell them how much you love them and that you'll always hold them dear.*

*Take time to say, "I'm sorry," "Please forgive me," "Thank you," or "it's okay."
And, if tomorrow never comes, you'll have no regrets about today.*



In Loving Memory Diana Rowena Leveque

Born

August 15, 1958
Alliance, Nebraska

Died

October 1, 2023
Rapid City, South Dakota

Funeral Service

Friday, October 6, 2023, 2:00 p.m.
Kinkade Funeral Chapel
Sturgis, South Dakota

Officiating

Pastor Bill Rich
Pastor Jerry Rich

Special Music

"Save a Place for Me" Free Bird
"Wind Beneath My Wings"

Honorary Pallbearers

Marty Geffre Travis Gerlich
Seth Paugh Leon Paugh
Dave Olson

Final Resting Place

At a Later Date

When God Stoops Down

When God stoops down from Heaven and beckons with his hand,
One that we love so dearly, it's hard to understand.

But with faith's eye look upward, look just beyond the gloom,
And see your precious loved one, in Heaven's brighter room.

So lay aside your grieving, and look to God above,
He'll steal away your sadness and fill your heart with love.

~ Nella Walters