

Carol Lynn McKenzie

Carol was born on May 18, 1952, in Chicopee Falls, MA, to Darel and Arlys (Koester) Smith. She attended school and graduated from Northville High School in 1970.

She married Dale Nash in 1972. Together, they had three children, Lynette, Bryan, and Mark. On January 26, 1996, she married Donald McKenzie in Piedmont, SD.

Carol spent 40 years with the Piedmont Fire and Ambulance departments, serving as the Assistant Chief. She was also Vice President of the Ambulance Board, and EMT instructor at Western Dakota Tech and South Dakota State EMT instructor, and was a SD EMT test team member, member of the Critical Debriefing Team. Carol always made time for her many hobbies and activities, including crafting, gardening, sewing, camping, and fishing. She was a Girl Scout Leader, and was the #1 spectator at her grandchildren's wrestling matches, football, soccer, and baseball games, racing events, dance and cheer events, and choir and band concerts. Carol was also a member of the Grace United Methodist Church in Piedmont.

Carol Lynn McKenzie, 67, died Wednesday, September 18, 2019, at her home in Piedmont, SD.

She is survived by her mother, Arlys A. Smith; her children, Lynette (Robert) Puhlman of Piedmont, Bryan (Heidi) Nash of Sturgis, and Mark (Jody) Nash of Piedmont; her brother, Curtis Smith; her sister, Julie (Gary) Townsend of Sioux Falls; nine grandchildren, Katelyn Puhlman, Jaren Puhlman, Samantha (Shane) Harkin, Christopher Nash, Carl Nash, Kiara Jackson, Tia McCaskey, Mason Nash, and Brayden Nash; one great-grandchild due in March; and her special friend, James Fleming.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Donald McKenzie; her father, Darel Smith; and her brother, Steven Smith.

In lieu of flowers, a memorial has been established to the Carol McKenzie Memorial Scholarship Fund for Sturgis High School seniors pursuing EMT.

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

*The family invites you to join them for fellowship and lunch
at the Piedmont Fire Hall following the funeral service.
We thank you for your presence and condolences.*

In Loving Memory Of



Carol Lynn McKenzie

1952 ~ 2019

You can shed tears because they are gone, or you can smile because they lived. You can close your eyes and pray they will come back, or you can open your eyes and see all that they left for you. Your heart can be empty because you can't see them, or you can be full of the love you shared. You can turn your back on tomorrow and live yesterday, or you can be happy for tomorrow because of yesterday. You can remember only that they are gone, or you can cherish their memory and let it live on. You can cry and close your mind and feel empty, or you can do what they would want.

Smile, Open your heart, Love...and go on.

~ Elizabeth Ammons



*Carol was a caregiver
So if you ever found yourself up the river
She would bail you out
Cause that was what she was all about
Even if you were a stray
She would help you anyway
Carol was in charge
But didn't let her ego get large
Family or friend
She loved you to the end
With her gone the world will be smaller
But you can bet heaven will hear her holler
She was a mother and grandmother
And there will never be another
She got by with what she had
And would not want to see everyone sad
From the beginning to the end
She was surrounded by her family and friends
Of course we will miss her
But knowing her made our hearts bigger
She wasn't ready to leave
But heaven is where she will be
With grandma gone
Her memory will live forever long*

In Loving Memory Of

Carol Lynn McKenzie

Born

May 18, 1952
Chicopee Falls, Massachusetts

Died

September 18, 2019
Piedmont, South Dakota

Funeral Service

Sunday, September 22, 2019, at 1:30 p.m.
Sturgis Brown High School West Gymnasium
Sturgis, South Dakota

Officiant

Pastor Karl Kroger

Musicians

Russell Townsend ~ Kristen Townsend
Emerson Townsend ~ Alaina Townsend

Musical Selections

"Jealous Of The Angels" ~ Julie Townsend
"Jesus Take The Wheel"
"Heaven Needed A Hero"
"Wind Beneath My Wings"
"Five More Minutes" ~ Carl Nash

Honorary Pallbearers

Jaren Puhlman ~ Chris Nash ~ Carl Nash ~ Mason Nash
Brayden Nash ~ Katelyn Puhlman ~ Samantha Harkin
Tia McCaskey ~ Shane Harkin ~ Kiara Jackson

Inurnment

Private Family Service
Black Hills National Cemetery
Sturgis, South Dakota