

Debra Diane Sieling, age 72, passed away in her home while surrounded by her loving family on May 13, 2023, after a courageous battle with cancer. Deb was born on January 11, 1951, to parents Russell & Ethel (Crozier) McCarty and grew up in Frazee, MN.

Growing up, she developed a lifelong love of animals, especially her horses and dogs. In 1969, she was crowned Miss Detroit Lakes; she continued her interest in pageants by organizing the Miss Dairyland Pageant in Bertha and judging other area pageants.

After graduating from Frazee High School in 1969, she attended Moorhead State University in Minnesota and earned a degree in physical education. She was very proud to be the first in her family to graduate with a four-year degree. On June 25, 1971, she was united in marriage to Robert Sieling at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Perham, MN. In 1973, Bob & Deb moved to Bertha, MN where they spent the next 38 years raising their family and working in education. Deb worked in various roles at the Bertha-Hewitt School and Freshwater Education District which included teaching, coaching basketball for a couple of years with Bob, testing coordinator, career education coordinator, and technology support. Deb was also active in many school and community organizations. She was the go-to person if you needed to get things done. In 2011, Bob & Deb retired from education and moved to Bob's childhood home in Perham, MN, where they spent the next couple of years executing Deb's renovating ideas to remodel the house. It is a home that all of their children and grandchildren enjoy and feel welcomed.

Deb loved gardening and flowers, being in her pool, spending time in nature and at the lake, and watching and feeding her birds. She was a master of home decoration, as her home was always in season; she made sure her house felt like a home. She loved riding on the side-by-side and walking the trails they carved out in their land. Her greatest love was spending time with her children and grandchildren and never missed an opportunity to support them at their many activities. Bob and Deb loved to travel and went on several memorable trips to places such as Ireland, Hawaii, Nova Scotia, Alaska and many others. Deb was known throughout her family for giving sound advice, earning her the name of DebMD from her sons-in-law.

Deb is survived by her husband of 52 years, Robert; children, Jen (Jason) Bain, Staci (Shawn) Kuhnke, Sarah (Jake) Wilhelmi, and Jason (Kasi) Sieling; grandchildren, Jaxon, Jillian, and Jaya Bain; Ella, Julia, Ava, and Grace Kuhnke; Jacobey, Adalynn, Brooklynn, and Jaclynn Wilhelmi; Wyatt, Lawson, and Conner Sieling; her brother, Bob McCarty; siblings-in-law, Bonnie (Del) Stohs, Dan (Lori) Sieling, John (Annette) Sieling, Carol (Tom) Chorley; and many nieces and nephews.



Celebrating THE *Life* OF



Debra D. Sieling

January 11, 1951 ~ May 13, 2023

ONCE *upon a time*

God looked around his garden
And he found an empty place
He then looked down upon his earth
And saw your tired face.
He put his arms around you
And lifted you to rest
God's garden must be beautiful
He always takes the best.
He knew that you were suffering
He knew you were in pain
He knew that you would never
Get well on earth again.
He saw the road was getting rough
And the hills are hard to climb.
So he closed your weary eyelids,
And whispered "Peace be Thine"
It broke our hearts to lose you
But you didn't go alone
For part of us went with you
The day God called you home.



Visitation

Sunday, May 21, 2023 - 4:00pm to 7:00pm
With a Prayer Service at 6:00 p.m.
Schoeneberger Funeral & Cremation Service
Perham, Minnesota

Memorial Service

Monday, May 22, 2023 at 11:00 a.m.
St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Perham, Minnesota

Officiated By

Pastor Kirk Douglas
Pastor Andrew Ratcliffe

Musicians

Chris and Amanda Sieling

Readers

Jaxon Bain
Ella & Julie Kuhnke

Honorary Urn Bearers

Jaxon Bain	Jacobey Wilhelmi
Jillian Bain	Adalynn Wilhelmi
Jaya Bain	Brooklynn Wilhelmi
Ella Kuhnke	Jaclynn Wilhelmi
Julia Kuhnke	Wyatt Sieling
Ava Kuhnke	Lawson Sieling
Grace Kuhnke	Conner Sieling

I became yours & you became mine.