

## **Karen O'Leary – AD 1983 Nursing**

Karen Frances O'Leary, a beloved member of the West Fargo community, passed away on September 25, 2024, at the age of 68, surrounded by her family at Sanford Health. Born on July 9, 1956, in Sauk Centre, MN, Karen was the daughter of Elmer Orth and Delores Weber.

Karen's journey in life was marked by dedication and perseverance. She completed her education at Sauk Centre High School and Alexandria Tech, earning her LPN degree before furthering her studies at NDSU, where she obtained her RN degree. Karen demonstrated her caring nature and skills in healthcare, serving in Cardiac Intensive Care and the Emergency Room with passion and commitment.

On October 15, 1983, Karen exchanged vows with Gayle O'Leary at St. Paul's Catholic Church in Sauk Centre, MN, laying the foundation for a beautiful life together in West Fargo. A devout Catholic, Karen's faith was a guiding light in her life, and her love and devotion to her family were unparalleled.

Karen's creativity shone through her hobbies, showcasing her talent for poetry, card making, and a love for gardening and interior decorating. She authored a collection of poems titled "Whispers," sharing her inner thoughts and feelings with the world. Despite facing ongoing health challenges, Karen's positive attitude and joyful demeanor were unwavering, inspiring all who knew her. Her kind spirit shone brightly through her acts of love and compassion. She touched the lives of many through her thoughtful gestures of staying connected with friends and family, whether through heartfelt letters, cards, or special Christmas cards.

She is survived by her husband Gayle, West Fargo, ND; daughters, Megan O'Leary, West Fargo, ND, Shannon O'Leary, Fargo, ND; siblings, Lori Orth, Sauk Centre, MN, Carol (Sid) Bjelland, Bemidji, MN and Mark (Cheryl Saari) Orth, Moundsvew, MN.

She was preceded in death by her dad, Elmer, mother and father-in-law, Marcus and Doris, sisters-in-law, Sharon Gale, Gwen Ann O'Leary and infant brother-in-law, Douglas Thomas O'Leary.  
Memorial Service: 12:00 P.M. Thursday, October 3, 2024, at Holy Cross Catholic Church, West Fargo, ND with visitation starting at 11:00 A.M.

Arrangements entrusted to the care of Boulger Funeral Home & Celebration of Life Center, Fargo.