ANDERSEN, Carol Renae (Oakland)

February 23, 1952
Sioux Falls
January 12, 2015
Sioux Falls

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Carol "Ranae" Oakland Andersen



Carol "Ranae" Oakland Andersen died Monday, January 12, 2015 at Sanford Medical Center surrounded by family. Funeral services were held Friday, January 16, 2015 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Sioux Falls, SD.

Ranae was born to James M. Oakland and Ada F. Rasmussen Oakland on February 23, 1952 in Sioux Falls, SD. She grew up around Viborg, SD and graduated from Viborg High School in 1970. She then attended Augustana College in Sioux Falls, SD and graduated in 1974 with a degree in Elementary Education. Ranae was married to Lee D. Andersen of Centerville, SD on June 4, 1977 and they moved to Sioux Falls, SD.

Ranae began teaching 5th grade at West Lyon Community School in Inwood, IA in 1974 and taught until the birth of her twins. After a short break, she started substitute teaching in Sioux Falls, SD in 1991 and continued until 1997 when she was hired full time at John Harris Elementary. She retired from teaching in 2012. Ranae enjoyed more than 35 years of teaching different ages of children. She came in contact with hundreds of students and their families during those years and enjoyed getting to know them and making an impact on their lives. Besides getting to know students and their families, many of her colleagues have made a positive impact on her and have become lifelong friends. After retiring from teaching she was hired at Sanford Medical Center in Guest Services in August of 2012. She worked until January 2014 when ill health forced her to quit.

Ranae was a member of Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Sioux Falls for many years and enjoyed singing in the Senior Choir and serving in many other capacities as well. She led the Sunday School singing for many years as well as the Good Friday Children's Pageant and Vacation Bible School music. She served on the Board of Education and Church Council as well. Even until the end, Ranae's faith was strong and very important to her. The way she lived her life displayed her values to all those who were lucky enough to know her.

Ranae and Lee took golf lessons as an activity they could enjoy together. They have been longtime members at Westward Ho Country Club and have formed many friendships with other golfers. The lack of year round golfing opportunities in the South Dakota "tundra" led way to warmer climates with golfing friends. In the fall of 2012, a dream was fulfilled when they purchased a second home in Goodyear, AZ.

Ranae treasured time spent with her family. That included her three children, husband, and beloved dog Piper, as well as her large extended family. She enjoyed all three of her children helping in her classroom and she was especially proud of Carrie making teaching her career. She and Kyle have always enjoyed a love of music, especially music from her younger years. Darin and she shared a love of traveling different parts of the United States and meeting new people which helped fuel their competition while watching Jeopardy.

Ranae is survived by her husband of 37 years, Lee; sons Darin and Kyle, all of Sioux Falls and daughter Carrie of Spearfish, SD; brothers Dr. James and wife Carol Oakland and Phil Oakland, all of Sioux Falls; parents-in-law Vernon and Beverly Andersen; brothers and sisters-in-law Gary and Deb Andersen, Gordon and Kelly Andersen, Craig and Gail Andersen all of Centerville, SD. Ranae is also survived by her nieces and nephews, Kristin and Aaron Canfield, Jeff and Heather Oakland, Travis and LoriAnne Andersen, Brent and Emily Andersen, Nick Andersen, Megan and Kyle Wendland, Tyler, Jacob, and Emily Andersen; 9 great-nieces and nephews; two uncles and two aunts; and many cousins as well as countless friends. She is preceded in death by her parents James and Ada Oakland and several aunts, uncles, and cousins. *www.heritagesfsd.com.*