



Amy Bortke

November 7, 1989 - February 26, 2007

Amy Bortke, 17, Bismarck, joined the angels in Heaven on February 26, 2007, at St. Mary's Hospital in Rochester, MN, after a life-long battle with health issues. Services will be held at 11:00 am Friday at Church of the Ascension with Rev. Marvin Klemmer and Rev. James Shea officiating. Burial will be held at St. Mary's Cemetery, Bismarck. Visitation will be held at 12:00 noon until 3:00 pm Thursday at Eastgate Funeral Service and continue from 5:00 pm until 9:00 pm Thursday at Church of the Ascension. Visitation will continue one hour prior to services at the church. A prayer service will be held at 7:00 pm Thursday at Church of the Ascension. Amy was born on November 7, 1989, in Bismarck, ND. She attended Highland Acres Elementary School, Horizon Middle School, and was currently a junior at St. Mary's Central High School. She enjoyed performing in theatre at St. Mary's and with the Shade Tree Players. She loved to cook and make various crafts, she also enjoyed jet skiing and campfires at the lake. Her proudest moment was getting her driver's license. Amy's golden heart touched many lives. She taught us patience, perseverance, and the true meaning of love. Her soul rests with God in Heaven as her memory lives on with her parents, Todd and Ann Bortke; her sisters, Kristen and Hayley; the family dog, Snickers; her grandparents, Al and Linda Bortke; her aunts and uncles, Paul and Michelle Bortke and Jeanette and Earl Strehlow, all of Bismarck, ND, Elaine and Russ Mather of Bismarck, ND, Delores and Stan Hughes of Hillsboro, IL, Marvin and Gloria Jordan of Williston, ND, Bobbi Myhra of Fargo, ND, Carol and Chris Voegelé of

Bowman, ND, Gary and Betty Jordan, Ernie and Carol Jordan, Wayne and Diane Jordan, Mary and Larry Messer, and Russ and Marion Jordan, all of Mott, ND, and Maggie Jordan of Dickinson, ND; and 36 cousins. Amy was preceded in death by her grandparents, John M. and Ann Jordan; her uncle, Lawrence Jordan; her great-grandparents, Lawrence and Margaret Ukestad and Dorothy and Lawrence Stokes; and her cousins, Scott Mather and Michael Hughes. Amy was grateful for all of her family and friends.

Tribute Wall

TR

“ I went to Horizon with Amy and I remember talking to her a few times in the hall, and even when I was sad or just didn't feel like being at school every time Amy would talk to me she was always able to cheer me up or, make me laugh. Amy will live on in my memory as one of the greatest friends I have ever had, and she will definitely be missed and in my prayers.

Tait Ressler - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

WF

“ We are so very sorry for your loss. Your family is in our thoughts and prayers.

Wade, Kathy, Joey, Marisa and Nic Felton - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KV

“ Thank you for being my friend!

Kathy Vagle - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

WH

“ Ann and Family,I didn't get the chance to meet Amy however Ann, it sounds like she was as beautiful inside and out as her mom. Thinking and praying for you.

Wanda Hoherz - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KS

“ Please know of my sincere sympathy at the loss of Amy. I was the development director at SMCHS for 3 years, my last semester was Amy's 1st semester at SMCHS. I remember fondly her smile among the students, and her willingness to always say a warm "hello." May her soul rest in peace, and may you, the Bortke family, find that same peace in knowing of the many lives she touched in her 17 years. God bless you!

Kelli R. Schneider - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

WK

“ We can all learn so much from how Amy lived her life. Not once did I ever hear her say 1 negative about her struggles. She always took care of the business at hand with determination and an extremely positive attitude. I had the pleasure of having Amy in Computer Applications class this semester and watched her try keep up with her assignments and be prepared for when she left for Rochester. She was studious and made sure she completed all assignments before she left. Not once did she use the trip as an excuse to not fulfill her classroom obligations. She even took some time to share some of the upcoming procedure with me as I inquired of it. Amy displayed characteristics that many other students and myself only wish we possessed. God blessed me with her presence at St. Mary's Central High School and I know she will be blessing him with her presence now.

Wade Kadrmas - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ Ann, Todd, Kristen, Hayley Amy lived life with gusto and spirit. I remember Amy returning from Rochester when she was in fourth grade. She was quite weak, but still spirited. What a great attitude she had! It would have been so easy to protect her from life and living, but you didn't. I remember having some trepidations about what activities Amy could or couldn't do when she entered my sixth grade class. Boy! Did she teach me a lesson! Life was to be lived to the fullest. I'll never forget the sixth grade track meet at the BSC Bowl. Amy surprised Mr. Weinberg, Ann and I when at the last minute she announced she wanted to run a race. I remember my heart skipping a few beats, but Ann was so supportive and gave her encouragement to "Go for it!" As Amy neared the finish line, the Highland Acres kids rushed the fence chanting, "Amy! Amy!" Amy will always be a winner in my eyes. She never complained or felt sorry for herself. She set high expectations for herself and approached life with determination. She taught us so much about living.

Judy Mjelstad - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

PF

“ Todd and Ann, There are just no words to tell you how sorry that I am about Amy's death. I wish I would have known that you were facing this. I would have called you, Todd. Please know that my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Amy was truly blessed to have you as parents. I hope you can find some comfort in knowing that many are supporting you now and always. Pam

Pam Fitzgerald - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ Dear Dear Amy!!!!!!Where does one begin to express how loved and admired Amy Jo Bortke was!!!!?!!!!!!I think she taught me more about life than any third grade material I ever could have taught her!Fond memories:Having Amy stop by my house one summer when in the neighborhood,Going to a Sleepy Hollow performance together,Visiting Amy in Rochester.....she wanted to listen to the multiplication tape in order that she wouldn't forget them!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!,Watching her grow and mature,Happiness at seeing her get her driver's license,Watching her perform on skates at the arena.... So many!!!!!! She displayed the awesome life skills of courage, perseverance, common sense, humor, patience, integrity, effort, responsibility,friendship, caring, kindness and love!!!!!!She truly taught anyone who knew her all these skills! She never complained!!!!I shall miss her as a friend....more than words can say!!!!!!!!!!Love, Carol Simmers

Carol Simmers - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

AM

“ We send prayers and sympathy for all the family. Our thoughts are with you.We send love.

Allen and Kaye McIntyre - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

BO

“ TO THE FAMILY OF AMY BORTKE,My heart goes out to you in this great time of loss I never got to meet Amy but her Greatgramma Dorothy spoke alot about her kids and grandkids and she was always showing me new pictures or this that she had been given. May this be a little easier knowing that GG Dorothy will be up there to welcome her with her arms wide open.

Brenda Olson - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SG

“ I truly loved having Amy in school at Horizon on the STARS team! She was always full of energy in class, kind to everyone she met, and I enjoyed hearing her voice and seeing her smile every day. She was an example of strength and courage for all of us to follow always.

Scott Gefroh - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

AF

“ Todd and Ann, Amy touched our hearts in so many ways, she will always be an inspiration to those who knew her and loved her. Amy will be dearly missed but she also taught those around her the true meaning of love and courage. Take care, Our prayers are with your family. Love the Allen Guthmiller family

Allen Guthmiller family - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

TI

“ Dear Amy's family, Our hearts go out to you at this time of sorrow. We have known Amy and your family through skating for many years now. We all seem like one big family. Amy was such an important part of it. She always cheered on the skaters, visited with parents and played with the little kids. She was so bright, so sweet and very caring. We will miss her beautiful smile. Amy will always be with us in our hearts. May God be with your family and with Amy.

Tawnya Inman - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

EZ

“ I am very sorry to hear about Amy. It has been a very long time since I have see your family. As a parent of 3, I can only imagine how difficult this is for your family. Amy is in good hands now. No more pain and suffering. God bless Amy and your family.

Earl Zent - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

AM

“ *It is hard to understand why such a sweet individual would be taken from her family, but only God knows the plan.*

Alita Miller/Charlotte Meier - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

AL

“ *Bortke, You are all in our thoughts and prayers. We loved Amy she was nice and thoughtfull. She was full pride when she went to her surgery. I got one thing to she loves you guys. Love your reletive Alexis Zeis*

Alexis - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DG

“ *Sweet, sweet Amy. I feel so blessed to have known Amy all the years that she was at Highland Acres. I will always remember her special radiance and the happiness she seemed to carry with her. May happy memories carry you through this sorrowful time, Todd, Ann, Kristen and Hayley. Know that you are in our prayers and thoughts and those of so many others who share your sorrow. With love, Dorothy Grunseth*

Dorothy Grunseth - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MR

“ *Todd and Ann-I am so sorry to read about the loss of your daughter Amy. My thoughts and prayers are with you.*

Mike Remboldt - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SL

“ My thoughts and prayers have been with you all these trying days! Amy was a wonderful example of trusting love. I know God rewards her with his eternal embrace of compassion and joy! May God give you strength and courage and may the loving support of family and friends give you consolation. Prayerfully,

Sister Susan Lardy - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

ED

“ I was always amazed by the near constant smile that I when Amy left school every day. She was an amazing young lady who will be missed by many. You are in my thoughts and prayers.

Earl Dunnigan - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ Words cannot begin to express the sorrow in our hearts for you and your family. Amy was a beautiful young lady that always had a smile on her face and such a wonderful attitude. It was a blessing and a privilege to have known Amy. She will be missed. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Darin, Shelly & Taylor Billing - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

AP

“ We are so sorry to hear of Amy's death. You and your families are in our prayers.

Arlo & Pat Pretzer - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

BB

“ Amy was flute student of mine for 3 years and played in the Highland Acres and Horizon school bands. She had such a positive outlook of life! Always giving it her all! She ALWAYS greeted me with... Good Morning Mr. Beck or Hello Mr. Beck With such a positive tone in her voice! I'm sure she is playing her flute in Heaven! :

Bob Beck - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LF

“ I am so very sorry for your loss. Your family is in my thoughts and prayers.

Lucy Christensen Fleckenstein - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RH

“ We learned to know Amy as a fellow camper at Maplewood resort. She always had a charming smile and would stop and visit. We enjoyed her so much. We loved that pretty red hair. She was always baking goodies to share and they were devine! We all would enjoy the family at the campfire. You have a great family Amy; youv'e given them 17 years of wonderful memories. Our hearts and prayers are with you Todd, Ann, Kristy, and Haley; may your faith give you strength and comfort.

Ron and Jan Hindt - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LJ

“ God put Amy in our world to teach us a lesson in courage. She certainly did her job well and will be remembered by everyone that she touched.

LaVern & Donnie Jessen - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

BP

“ In my 30 years as a teacher I have had many students. Few have touched my heart as deeply as Amy. I have so many fond memories of her, some funny, some serious. In all the years I have known Amy, I don't recall her ever using the words "I can't." She was the first to admit she wasn't perfect and would say, "That's hard for me, or I'm not very good at that." but she always gave her personal best. I wish I possessed some of that perserverance and courage. Right now I am wearing a gold heart shaped necklace--a gift from Amy. I will always treasure it! Know that her golden heart has touched many. My heart aches---I will miss her infectious smile, her bubbly personality, and most of all her kind heart. I am so lucky to have had her as a student and know her loving, caring, and giving family. Love and peace to each of you, Mrs. Patzman

Barb Patzman - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

AF

“ During this difficult time we send our deepest condolences. No relationship is as great and binding as the one between parent and child. May Almighty God continue to help you cope with such a great loss and may his promise John 11:25 help you find peace and comfort now and in the days to come. Amy touched the lives of many persons and will be missed very much.

A.D.Kindred & Family - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

PM

“ I was a board member at the same time that Al was on the board and was board chair. I was so sorry to hear of Amy's passing. I'm sure the loss is beyond comprehension and she will be profoundly missed. Know that Amy and all of you are in the thoughts and prayers of all of us at Special Olympics North Dakota.

Pat Moore,MD - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ cheap car insurance ratefree online car insurance quotecheapest car insuranceflorida car insurance

Jdsdsv - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

AP

“ I just learned of the passing of sweet little Amy. I remember how cute she was as a little girl and the stories Elaine would often share with us. I'm truly sorry for your loss. God Bless you and your entire family.

Angela Plante - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KK

“ Todd,Ann and Girls.My heart goes out to you through this tough time. Amy was truly an inspiration to me. Every time I spent with her is a memory to me. She is a hero in my book. I love you all very much and keep you in my prayers.

Katie Kopp - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JA

“ Our thoughts and prayers our with you.The Armans

John Arman - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LB

“ We will miss you AMY & you will still be in our prayers.....Lotza Love...Len & Mary

Len & Mary Bortke - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RR

“ Dear Todd, Ann, Kristen and Hayley, We are so sorry to hear about Amy. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. May God be with you.
The Rasks

Rick, Paula, Matt and Laryssa Rask - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM