



Geri Maier

June 17, 1957 - September 24, 2014

Geri Welle Maier, 57, died Wednesday, September 24, 2014, in Bismarck, ND, from a many year battle with breast cancer. Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10:30 am Monday, September 29, at Church of Corpus Christi, 1919 N 2nd St., Bismarck, with Father Victor Feser officiating. Visitation will be held from 3-9pm Sunday, September 28, at Parkway Funeral Service, 2330 Tyler Parkway, Bismarck, where a vigil will begin at 7pm. Entombment will be held at Sunset Memorial Gardens, Bismarck. Geri was born on June 17, 1957, in Fosston, MN, to Harvey and Shirley Winkler Welle and grew up on a farm near Mahanomen, MN. She earned her bachelor's degree in nursing from University of North Dakota in 1979. After Graduation, Geri worked as an ICU nurse. In 1987, she went on to receive her Masters of Science in Nursing from University of Mary in Bismarck, ND. Afterwards, Geri became a professor at Medcenter One College of Nursing and, later, University of Mary College of Nursing for many years. Her passion and dedication to teaching demonstrated that it was her calling. Pushing students to achieve their highest potentials truly fulfilled her. On August 2, 1980, Geri married Dave Maier at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Beaulieu, MN. They moved to Bismarck, ND, in 1981 where they have resided ever since. They had two children, Mike and Melissa. More recently, they have enjoyed spoiling two grandchildren, Braden and Brielle. Geri's favorite mornings included a Starbucks peppermint mocha in hand after a rejuvenating trip from the YMCA. Many nights consisted of dining at local restaurants and then catching the Big Bang Theory in "her spot." On

weekends that weren't spent at the lake, she enjoyed using her Kohl's cash and numerous coupons on her family members. Every year, Geri would try to have a fun vacation planned - a recent excursion included fulfilling her lifelong dream to visit the British Isles. Many family and friends' birthdays were accompanied by gorgeously decorated cakes from Geri, but her signature dessert was her soft sugar cookies. When she wasn't baking, Geri would read endlessly from the many books stashed around the house. She was a very generous and loving mother, wife, sister, and friend who would do anything for the ones she held dear. Geri will be deeply missed by her husband of 34 years, Dave; her two children, Mike Lacey of Bismarck, Melissa of Mitchell, SD; her two grandchildren, Braden and Brielle; her mother, Shirley Welle of Fergus Falls, MN; her four sisters, Bonnie Harley Zimmer of Evansville, MN, Charlene Cletus Geray of Waubun, MN, Diane Rod Rothschadl of Thief River Falls, MN, McLinda Doug Dewey of Fergus Falls, MN; her foster brother, David Beaulieu of Mahnomen, MN; and many aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews, and friends. Geri was preceded in death by her father, Harvey Welle; a sister, Mary; and a niece, Amanda Dewey.

Tribute Wall

HB

“ Dave, Mike and family. Please accept my sincere sympathy in the loss of your Wife and Mother. My thoughts and prayers go out to all three of you.

Herman Bauer - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

HB

“ Dave, Mike and family. Please accept my sincere sympathy in the loss of your Wife and Mother. My thoughts and prayers go out to all three of you.

Herman Bauer - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LS

“ Maier family, I feel so for your loss of wife, mother, daughter, sister, aunt, friend, confidant as Geri was all of these to your family. I graduated with Diane and have been in correspondence with her. I feel the need to pass this little poem on to you..remember now that Geri is with you always, no matter where you are..she is right there... here comes the poem.. YOU WILL BE REMEMBERED You will be remembered When the flowers bloom in spring In the summertime remembered In the fun that summer brings. You will be remembered When fall brings leaves of gold In the wintertime remembered In the stories that are told And you will be remembered Each day right from the start For the memories that we once shared Forever live within my heart.

Laurie Krajsa Smerud - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LS

“Maier family, I feel so for your loss of wife, mother, daughter, sister, aunt, friend, confidant as Geri was all of these to your family. I graduated with Diane and have been in correspondence with her. I feel the need to pass this little poem on to you..remember now that Geri is with you always, no matter where you are..she is right there... here comes the poem.. **YOU WILL BE REMEMBERED** You will be remembered When the flowers bloom in spring In the summertime remembered In the fun that summer brings. You will be remembered When fall brings leaves of gold In the wintertime remembered In the stories that are told And you will be remembered Each day right from the start For the memories that we once shared Forever live within my heart.

Laurie Krajsa Smerud - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LK

“Dear Dave, Mike, Melissa and family, My mom sent me news of Geri. I'm so very sorry. For some reason I have thought of her recently. I too am a registered nurse and have been considering pursuing my nurse practitioner. As a child I knew that Geri was a nurse and also a nursing instructor. I very much looked up to her for that. I remember her so vividly as a kind neighbor next door to us when I was growing up on Hackberry. I think she also may have been one of the first people to ask me to babysit. I babysat Mike and Melissa a few times and am glad to hear that Mike had brought grandchildren into her life. My thoughts and good memories go out to all three of you. Sending you my best.

Laura Dinyer Kayande - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LK

“ Dear Dave, Mike, Melissa and family, My mom sent me news of Geri. I'm so very sorry. For some reason I have thought of her recently. I too am a registered nurse and have been considering pursuing my nurse practitioner. As a child I knew that Geri was a nurse and also a nursing instructor. I very much looked up to her for that. I remember her so vividly as a kind neighbor next door to us when I was growing up on Hackberry. I think she also may have been one of the first people to ask me to babysit. I babysat Mike and Melissa a few times and am glad to hear that Mike had brought grandchildren into her life. My thoughts and good memories go out to all three of you. Sending you my best.

Laura Dinyer Kayande - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

BS

“ Maier Family, I transferred out to the University of Mary in the middle of my college career. I knew I wanted to go into nursing, but was very discouraged about ever getting into a program. Geri was the first nursing instructor I had and she was not only patient, kind, and encouraging, but she gave me hope that becoming a nurse was really an attainable goal. She was present throughout my entire nursing school career and was a go-to for a lot of the students due to her passion for teaching and willingness to help anyone who came to her. The last time I saw her was in May right before I graduated from nursing school. I will never forget the kindness she showed me and can tell you personally that she will be greatly missed by not just me, but by all of the students whose lives she touched. My prayers go out to your family during this difficult time.

Breanna Schauer - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

EW

“Maier family, it is with great sadness that I hear of the passing of Geri. When I changed careers and went into nursing Geri was one of our instructors at MedCenter One school of Nursing the first year that it went researched based Bachelors degree. We all had to make changes in a new way of learning and doing. Since then the schools have advanced even more because of the instructors and leaders that we had. Geri was a GREAT instructor and mentor and TRUELY enjoyed her profession and family. My heart felt sorrow for your lose. Heaven has gained a great person that we well all see again. My prayers are with you as you go through these difficult times but remember the exceptional women, wife, mother, daughter, sister, friend grandmother etc and the lives she touched. Erin Wooten

Erin Wooten - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

EW

“Maier family, it is with great sadness that I hear of the passing of Geri. When I changed careers and went into nursing Geri was one of our instructors at MedCenter One school of Nursing the first year that it went researched based Bachelors degree. We all had to make changes in a new way of learning and doing. Since then the schools have advanced even more because of the instructors and leaders that we had. Geri was a GREAT instructor and mentor and TRUELY enjoyed her profession and family. My heart felt sorrow for your lose. Heaven has gained a great person that we well all see again. My prayers are with you as you go through these difficult times but remember the exceptional women, wife, mother, daughter, sister, friend grandmother etc and the lives she touched. Erin Wooten

Erin Wooten - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MD

“ Dave, Mike and Melissa: The entire Dinyer family were so saddened to hear of Geri's passing. We did not know that the cancer was evident after all of these years. She was such a fun, loving, and wonderful human being. I know you and the rest of us will miss her tremendously. Glad to have had you all as neighbors for many years. George, Mary, Laura and Garrett

Mary Dinyer - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MD

“ Dave, Mike and Melissa: The entire Dinyer family were so saddened to hear of Geri's passing. We did not know that the cancer was evident after all of these years. She was such a fun, loving, and wonderful human being. I know you and the rest of us will miss her tremendously. Glad to have had you all as neighbors for many years. George, Mary, Laura and Garrett

Mary Dinyer - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

WB

“ Maier family,I am so sorry to hear of the loss of Geri. She was one of my instructors years ago in nursing school at Medcenter One College of Nursing. What a wise instructor she was. She was such a delight to have as an instructor. My deepest sympathy to you.

Wanda Berger Binstock - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

WB

“ Maier family,I am so sorry to hear of the loss of Geri. She was one of my instructors years ago in nursing school at Medcenter One College of Nursing. What a wise instructor she was. She was such a delight to have as an instructor. My deepest sympathy to you.

Wanda Berger Binstock - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SM

“ I really enjoyed having a office next to Geri at University of Mary. She always had a great sense of humor and always voiced her opinion whenever it was the best interest of the students. Geri and I would exchange conversation about our shopping excursions! Geri was the most organized instructor. She always had her student assignments and/or lectures done far in advance of the due dates!!

Sherry Messmer - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SM

“ I really enjoyed having a office next to Geri at University of Mary. She always had a great sense of humor and always voiced her opinion whenever it was the best interest of the students. Geri and I would exchange conversation about our shopping excursions! Geri was the most organized instructor. She always had her student assignments and/or lectures done far in advance of the due dates!!

Sherry Messmer - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM