

## HUNTLEY, BONNIE LOU DICKINSON

October 4, 1942 – December 6, 2018

Bonnie Huntley – enduringly beautiful, deeply faithful and hopelessly accident-prone – passed away at home Thursday morning surrounded by her husband and children after a courageous 5-year battle with cancer. The third of seven children, she was born Bonnie Lou Dickinson and raised in Veblen, South Dakota where she played in the creek, rode horses bareback and discovered a love for God in Sunday School. She moved to Minneapolis as a young woman where she met her husband Michael. They were engaged within 6 weeks and celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary on November 30th of this year. Together they raised four children who tested her patience and sanity throughout their childhood, but as adults, became her greatest admirers and supporters. Her sons blessed her with nine grandchildren – ages 6 to 26 – bringing her the truest and most enduring joy of her life.

Known for her tiny stature and effervescent smile, her outward appearance defied an enormous capacity for selflessness and strength. After a turbulent childhood, she went on to survive a deadly car accident as a teen, the drowning of 6-year old son Trent, and a near fatal staph infection at age 55. In spite of (or perhaps because of) these tragedies, she grew ever more devoted to her faith and relationship with God. Bible Study Fellowship, her PEO Sisterhood and mission trips to Poland were all deeply rewarding labors of love.

Bonnie was a voracious reader, a singer, a musician, an accomplished painter and a pro at crossword puzzles. However, it was her quirks and escapades that we will cherish and miss most. Despite a background in accounting and penchant for spreadsheets, she regularly lost sunglasses, keys, credit cards and the occasional expensive piece of jewelry. And while inherently graceful and elegant, the epic style in which she acquired bruises, bumps, scrapes and breaks over the years was often so haphazard and ridiculous that we would laugh until we cried.

To put it simply, she was the most magical mix of beauty, fortitude, innocence, and integrity. She was the better angel of us all. She will be welcomed in heaven by her loving Lord along with son Trent, sister Cheryl, mother Gladys, father Joe, infant sister and brother, and other family and friends who preceded her. A celebration of Bonnie's life will be held at Mount Calvary Lutheran Church in Excelsior on Saturday, December 29 from 10AM-12PM with lunch to follow ([www.mountcalvary.org](http://www.mountcalvary.org)). In lieu of flowers, memorial donations honoring Bonnie may be directed to Fairview Hospice. Please give online at [fairview.org/giving](http://fairview.org/giving) or send gifts to Fairview Foundation 2450 Riverside Avenue, Minneapolis MN 55454.