

OBITUARIES



LACEY R. LAROCQUE
"MUKWA IKWE" — BEAR WOMAN
Apr. 20, 1983 — May 5, 2026

BELCOURT — Lacey R. LaRocque, age 43, of Belcourt, North Dakota, passed peacefully away on Tuesday, May 5, 2026, with her loving family by her side.

ROSARY — Friday, May 15, 2026 @ 12:00 p.m. St. Michael Catholic Church

MASS of the CHRISTIAN BURIAL @ 1:00p.m. with CELEBRANT — Fr. Paul Schuster

URN BEARER — nephew David LaRocque III

HONORARY PALLBEARERS — All friends and family that loved Lacey.

Please join the family for a meal in the Tekawitha Center immediately after burial in Heaven Cemetery Cavanaugh Homestead

Lacey was born on April 20, 1983 in Devils Lake to David LaRocque, Sr. and Judy (Cavanaugh) LaRocque. Lacey was member St. Anthony's Church. And she was baptized in St. Michael Catholic Church. Her Godparents are Leo and the late Viola (Cookie) Delorme.

Lacey graduated from Belcourt High School in 2001. In her spare time, she loved spending time with friends and family. Lacey worked various jobs throughout her life to provide for herself and her children. At times, due to health challenges, she was unable to do all the things she wanted, as

soreness and pain often came with her illness.

Everyone who knew Lacey will remember her as a gentle and kind hearted person who always greeted others with a warm hello and a smile.

She will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved her and will never be forgotten.

Lacey was blessed with three beautiful children: Jace, Jacey, and KJ, whom she loved dearly. She is survived by her parents, David Sr. and Judy LaRocque of Belcourt; her brother, David Jr. (Brittney) LaRocque of Dunseith; her sons, Jace LaRocque and KJ Delorme; her daughter, Jacey LaRocque; her nephew, David LaRocque III; her niece, Brenna LaRocque of Dunseith, North Dakota; along with many uncles, aunts, cousins, and dear friends.

Lacey was preceded in death by her infant brother, Patrick Michael LaRocque; her paternal grandparents, Alec and Margaret LaRocque; her maternal grandparents, Michael "Brownie" and Irene Cavanaugh; and many more relatives whom she loved dearly.

The family would like to extend a special thank you to everyone who loved, supported, and prayed for Lacey throughout her journey.

Arrangements were with Elick Funeral Home, Devils Lake, ND.

ALLEN MOLINE
Nov. 24, 1950 — Apr. 28, 2026

DEVILS LAKE — Allen Moline, age 75, of Devils Lake, ND passed away on Tuesday, April 28, 2026 at Altru Hospital, Grand Forks, ND.

A Graveside Service was held at 1:00 PM on Friday, May 15, 2026 at Rolette City Cemetery, Rolette, ND with Hoshea Morley presiding.

All were welcome to join the family for fellowship following the burial at Ebenezer Lutheran Brethren Church, Rolette, ND.

Allen Blaine Moline was born on November 24, 1950 in Rolette, ND to Howard and Violet

(Thompson) Moline. He was raised in Rolette and completed his education at Rolette High School. Allen was a world traveler and worked jobs locally as well as in Bozeman, MT and Englewood, NJ. He loved to travel and explore new places. He was truly a jack of all trades. Allen enjoyed music, going to flea markets and coffee shops, and especially his art work where he made beautiful paintings. He attended bible study in Devils Lake regularly. Allen was deeply loved by his family and will be forever missed.

Allen is survived by his sister, Heather Rockvov of Willow City; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Howard and Violet Moline, and his siblings, Arden Moline, Deborah Hines, Holly Laverdure, and Shawn Moline.

Arrangements were with Elick Funeral Home, Rolla, ND.



PEGGY OLSON
July 31, 1965 — May 6, 2026

BELCOURT — Peggy Sue Olson, age 60, of Belcourt, ND passed away on Wednesday, May 6, 2026 at Quentin Burdick Health Care Facility, Belcourt, ND.

A Mass of Christian Burial with Father Samuel Medley officiating was held at 10:00 AM on Wednesday, May 13, 2026 at St. Ann's Catholic Church, Belcourt, ND with visitation beginning at 8:00 AM and Rosary Service led by Alice Davis and Roberta DeCoteau at 9:00 AM prior to the funeral mass.

Burial followed in St. Ann's

Catholic Cemetery, Belcourt, ND.

Casket Bearers were Chad Olson, Austin DeCoteau, Tritan Azure, Hayden Azure, Derrick DeCoteau, Jonathan Olson, Riley Olson Ron Davis, and Derrick DeCoteau.

Honorary Bearers were all brothers, brothers-in-law, as well as Peggy's family and friends.

Eucharistic Gifts presented by Scarlet Olson and Kim Davis.

Special Music provided by Craig Lunday, Alvin Poitra, and Terry Baker.

Peggy was born on July 31, 1965 in Rolla, ND to Warren and Cecelia Olson. Her Godparents were Alice and Lloyd Davis. She attended Turtle Mountain Community High School, graduating with the class of 1983. She later continued her education at Turtle Mountain Community College, where she earned her associate of arts degree.

Peggy dedicated many years of service to the Turtle Mountain community through her work with tribal programs, including the Fatherhood Program and Turtle Mountain Heat Start. She was known for her caring nature, her strong sense of family, and the love she carried for the people around her.

Above all else, Peggy was a proud and devoted mother. She was blessed with three sons, Rallen Counts, Jordon Olson, and Ernie "Bubby" Counts. Her greatest joy in life was spending time with her children and grandchildren, Riggan, Rainey, and Ky-noah, whom she loved deeply. Peggy also helped raise her nephews, Tristan and Hayden, as her own.

Peggy enjoyed spending time with family and friends, and she especially loved going to bingo. She faithfully looked forward to KEYA's Bonanza Bingo games each week, which brought her so much happiness and excitement.

Peggy is survived by her sons, Jordan (Mandy Morin) Olson and Ernie Jr. "Bubby" (Candace) Counts of Belcourt; mother, Cecelia Greybill; siblings, Scarlet (Randy) Olson, Howard (Jackie) Olson, Warren Jr. (Fern) Olson, John (Tammi) Olson, and Kim (Bubush) Davis; along with many nieces, nephews, relatives, and friends who will miss her dearly.

Peggy was preceded in death by her father, Warren Olson, beloved son, Rallen Counts, her former husband, Ernie Counts Sr., and her husband, Steve Longie.

Peggy's kindness, humor, and love for her family will be remembered always by those who knew and loved her.

Arrangements are with Elick Funeral Home, Rolla, ND.



COLETTE POITRA
Jan. 12, 1972 — May 7, 2026

BELCOURT — Colette Poitra, age 54, of Belcourt, ND passed away on Thursday, May 7, 2026 at Sanford Hospital, Fargo, ND.

A Mass of Christian Burial with Father Samuel Medley officiating was held at 10:00 AM on Thursday, May 14, 2026 at St. Ann's Catholic Church, Belcourt, ND with visitation beginning at 8:00 AM and Rosary Service at 9:00 AM prior to the funeral mass led by Richard and Patti Wilkie.

Burial followed funeral services at St. Ann's Catholic Cemetery, Belcourt, ND.

Casket Bearers were Christian Azure, Trevor Azure, Garrett Azure, Ronald Poitra Jr., Shawn Poitra, Keya Azure, Ricky Jason Azure, and Nate LaFountain. Honorary Bearers were Skyler James Poitra and James Poitra and all co-workers and former co-workers.

Eucharistic Gifts presented by Elisha Azure and Christian Azure. Scriptural Readers were Lori LaFountain, Tammie Morin, and Jami Wilkie-Patton.

Special Music provided by Chad Marcellais. Rosary led by Richard and Patti Wilkie.

Colette Marie Poitra was born on January 12, 1972 in Belcourt,

ND to Ronald and Doris (LaValle) Azure. She was raised in Belcourt and completed her education there as well. Colette furthered her education at Turtle Mountain College obtaining an associate of science degree, as well as, a medical coding degree.

She was united in marriage to Frank Poitra on June 4, 1999 at St. Ann's Catholic Church, Belcourt, ND. Colette was the proud mother of two children, Shanice and Christian. She worked as a medical coder for Indian Health Services for many years. Colette enjoyed the outdoors, cutting her grass, taking rides to the lake, and painting. She loved her family dearly and enjoyed visiting with her family and her friends. Colette will be lovingly remembered and greatly missed by all.

Colette is survived by her husband, Frank Poitra of Belcourt; children, Shanice Poitra and Christian Azure (Elisha Azure), both of Belcourt; mother, Doris Azure of Belcourt; brothers, Travis Azure of Rolla, Ronnie Azure, and Trevor Azure, both of Belcourt; and nieces and nephews.

Colette was preceded in death by her father, Ronald Azure.

Arrangements are with Elick Funeral Home, Rolla, ND.



FRANCIS NELSON
July 27, 1962. — May 9, 2026

BELCOURT — Francis Nelson, age 63, of Belcourt, ND passed away on Saturday, May 9, 2026 at Quentin Burdick Memorial Health Care Facility, Belcourt, ND.

A Visitation began at 5:00 PM on Thursday, May 14, 2026 at St. Ann's Catholic Church, Belcourt, ND with a Rosary Service at 7:00 PM led by his sisters.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held at 1:00 PM on Friday, May 15, 2026 at St. Ann's Catholic Church, Belcourt, ND. Burial followed in St. Ann's Catholic Cemetery, Belcourt, ND. A meal followed the funeral services at LaDot's Hall, Belcourt, ND.

Casket Bearers were Steve Herman Jr., Wally DeCoteau Jr., Mark "June" Simms, Dylan DeCoteau, Michael Nelson Jr., Kadyr DeCoteau, and Keon Laducer.

Honorary Bearers were Stuart LaFountain, Ronnie Belgarde, Robby Wilson, Robby Parisien, Isaiah Johnson, Kevin Keplin, Terry "Tubby" Wallete, brothers-in-law, and nephews.

Eucharistic Gifts presented by Aislyn DeCoteau and his grandchildren, Dahlton Jr., Soren, and Stormie Poitra. Scriptural Readers were Roberta DeCoteau and Perry LaFountain. Special Music provided by Chad Marcellais, Terry Baker, and family friends.

Francis B. Nelson was born on July 27, 1962 in Belcourt, ND to Michael "Mike" Sr. and Gladys (DeLong) Nelson. He was raised in Belcourt and completed graduated from Belcourt High School. Francis furthered his education at trade school in Ardmore, OK. Francis worked many jobs throughout his life including carpentry, maintenance, and horse shoe repair by trade. He was a loving father and grandfather;

especially loving time spent with his grandchildren, Dahlton Jr., Soren, and Stormie. Francis loved time outdoors with his horses, going to horse races, fishing, and hunting. He was a basketball coach for many years and was a social butterfly, engaging in conversation with many of the many people he came in contact with. Francis loved his family dearly and will be deeply missed by them in return.

Francis is survived by his daughters, Savannah Poitra of Belcourt and Shelby Keplin of Mandan; six grandchildren, Dahlton Poitra Jr., Soren Poitra, Stormie Poitra, Tucker Keplin, KoDee Keplin, and TayLani Keplin; siblings, Roberta (Wally) DeCoteau of Belcourt, Barbara (Nick Wilkie) Nelson of Belcourt, Michael Jr. (Cindy) Nelson of Belcourt, Debbie (Mark) Simms of Chester, VA, Peggy (Bruno) Johnson of Belcourt, and Lisa Nelson of Belcourt; and many nieces and nephews.

Francis was preceded in death by his parents, Michael "Mike" Sr. and Gladys Nelson.

Arrangements were with Elick Funeral Home, Rolla, ND.



ANTHONY AZURE
May 23, 1960 — May 11, 2026

DUNSEITH — Anthony "Tony" Azure, age 65 of Dunseith, passed away on Monday, May 11, 2026 at a Belcourt hospital.

The services for Tony will be on Tuesday, May 19th at St. Anthony's Catholic Church starting at 8am with visitation and 10am service. A meal will follow in the hall.

Anthony P. Azure was born on May 5, 1960, to Frances and Martha Azure in Belcourt, North Dakota. He was raised in Dunseith, North Dakota, and attended Belcourt Elementary and High School. Throughout his life, Anthony worked many jobs, including serving as a ranch hand for Phillip Parisien for about fifteen years.

In his later years, he cherished spending time with his grandchildren, he especially loved when his great-grandson Blake would come to visit. He loved fishing, visiting with friends, and playing cards with family. Anthony met the love of his life, Arlene, and they were married on June 6, 1982, in Belcourt Court, and again on June 6, 1992, in the church.

Anthony is survived by his wife, Arlene; son - Gordon (Jeri) Demery of Dunseith; daughters - Tracy (Brad) L'Esperance of Dunseith and Diana L'Esperance of Minot, ND; many grandchildren; brothers - Harvey Azure of Dunseith, John Azure of Dunseith, Mike (Gladys) Azure of Dunseith, and Phillip (Melinda) Azure of Dunseith; two aunts, Cecelia Azure and Dora Ward; adopted sister, Sherry (Jason) Taylor Azure.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a son, Anthony Azure Jr.; granddaughters, Shatehya Azure and Kalyn Aiken; and grandson, Britt Azure, along with many aunts and uncles.

Arrangements were with Nexo Funeral Home in Bottineau.

Lines from the Lighthouse



Real Men Love Jesus

Greetings in the Name of Jesus Christ! I thank God for the example of a man that I had growing up. My Dad is the late Pastor Larry J. Belgarde, and I was blessed to have been able to call him my Dad. In the world that we are living in today people think that a man is measured by how many beers he can drink or how many women he can get. But when I look back on my childhood and early adulthood, I learned how a man ought to act and conduct himself and how to treat others. I learned this by not only being told but by watching my Dad. My Dad has been gone for 8 1/2 years but I thank God for the teaching that he gave me.

This article was written by my Dad, it's titled "Real Men Love Jesus". Did you know that real men love Jesus? It's true! Why do I say that? Because it takes a real man to stand up for Jesus!! Anyone can serve the devil, but it takes a real man to make a stand for Jesus. Anyone can serve the devil, but it takes a real man to make a stand for Jesus. Any man can run around drinking, fighting, reading dirty magazines, and having X-rated movies in the house just to show the guys how manly he is. But it takes a real man to stand up and say, "Hey, I don't need all that junk to prove that I'm a man!" He just needs to stand up and say, "I love Jesus, and I want to obey His commandments!" You see, "Real men love Jesus!"

It takes more courage for a man to stand up for Jesus when everyone is ridiculing him and calling him a sissy. Just because he will not do all the ungodliness that other men are doing! All a man really needs is a made-up mind to serve Jesus, and not care what people are saying and thinking about him!

A real man is going to be an example to his family and show them how to live for God. He is not going to squander his money on gambling, drinking, and drugs and leave his family without food, clothing, and other necessities needed for survival. Paul says in **Ephesians 5:25, 28-29** "Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it. (28) So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself. (29) For no man ever yet hated his own flesh, but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church." **Ephesians 6:4** says "And ye Fathers, provoke not your children to wrath; but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord." **Colossians 3:19 & 21** says, "Husbands love your wives and be not bitter against them. (21) Fathers provoke not your children to anger, lest they be discouraged."

*Here's a song, written and recorded by Cliff Caldwell, called: "Real Men Love Jesus!"

(1) In this world we're living in, men really think they're men, but the proof is in the puddin' when it

comes time to take a stand. Now when the going gets tough and all of life's chips are down. Do they rise at the occasion with examples that are heaven bound.

(Chorus) "Real Men Love Jesus" don't need X-rated things to please us. Big, little, or small, down on his knees he's standing might tall. Don't need Jim Beam to take a stand, he's got a backbone made with nail scarred hands. Ain't backin' down, don't care who sees us, "real men love Jesus". Well, if you're thinking you're strong, stand toe to toe with the world and say, "That's wrong!" Ain't backing down, don't care care who sees us, "real men love Jesus!" (2) Is there food on the table, are you giving the baby milk? Are you wasting your money on booze or worldly filth? When everybodys says "Go ahead!" Do you tell them what Jesus said? Or do you tuck your tail and run and just bury your head? (Chorus)

Remember men! Anybody can be a part of the gang and be one of the boys! But it takes a real man to stand up and be a dad to his children, and be a husband to his wife! It takes a real man to love Jesus! Jesus said, "If you love me, keep my commandments..." **"Remember! 'Real Men Love Jesus!'"**

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Turtle Mountain Times

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