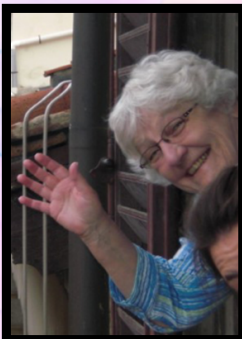




A beautiful spirit
endures
 Through many transformations
 A perseverance of the soul
 The colors of our lives do not fade
 But grow *brighter* with every
 changing season



Celebrating
 THE LIFE OF
Barbara Bauman

Born to Elizabeth (Langwald) and Joseph Weber
 December 24, 1940 ~ Sidney, Montana

Passed Away
 October 1, 2022 ~ Billings, Montana

Wake Services
 Wednesday, October 5, 2022 at 6:00pm
 St. Catherine's Catholic Church ~ Fairview, Montana

Funeral Mass
 Thursday, October 6, 2022 at 10:00am
 St. Catherine's Catholic Church ~ Fairview, Montana

Officiating
 Father Jim O'Neil

Final Resting Place
 Fairview Cemetery ~ Fairview, Montana

Arrangements By
 Fulkerson Stevenson Funeral Home ~ Sidney, Montana



Celebrating
 THE LIFE OF
Barbara Bauman

December 24, 1940 - October 1, 2022



Born December 24, 1940, Barb was the second of four children of German immigrants Elizabeth Langwald Weber and Joseph Weber. During her childhood she loved working with her father on the family farm south of Fairview, Montana.

Barb was the homecoming and prom queen her senior year at Fairview High, but was quick to say "there weren't many girls in my class." Her classmates knew her to be kind and beautiful, especially her high school sweetheart Johnny Bauman whom she later married.

After high school Barb moved to Williston, North Dakota and worked as a secretary for the Job Service until becoming engaged to John two years later. John's parents weren't too keen on their son marrying a Catholic, so John quit farming and moved to Billings where he got a job and found an apartment for Barb to live until they were married – which happened on December 3, 1960 in Billings.

A change of heart by John's parents, and a subsequent heart attack of his father, brought the newly married couple back to Fairview to work at the Bauman family farm in East Fairview, North Dakota. Barb worked on the farm – running the business side of things, driving beet truck, and keeping everyone fed – while also working for the Soil Conservation Service in Fairview. Barbara was never a stranger to hard work.

Once the children came, her work at the Soil Conservation Service ended. Barb and John raised three girls on the family farm – Diane, Chris, and Jeanne – whom they taught independence and a strong work ethic.

Then, in 1982, with the girls mostly raised, Barb was asked to join a newly formed company that ignited a

passion she didn't know she had – computers! On Line Computer Service hired her to do bookwork for businesses in Fairview and Sidney. She learned the ins and outs of computing at the dawn of the computer age. She said it was a very exciting time! In her final years of life, as her health declined, she was always tickled to see the surprised and impressed looks on her medical providers' faces when this white haired 80-year-old lady was fluent in their medical web portals.

Barb was a voracious reader, never without a book and later her Kindle, and loved playing games of any kind. She was particularly a wiz at computer games. A favorite memory her youngest daughter has with her mom is the Christmas that an Atari machine was under the tree. Barb played it as much as Jeanne did, and they together played Pac-Man until the score hit the highest it could go and reset back to zero. Then later Barb played with her grandsons Adam and Drew... upgrading from Atari to Nintendo. Barb's oldest grandson Adam bragged to his friends that his Granny conquered Super Mario Brothers and the Legend of Zelda before he did. Her other grandson, Drew, added that she was a "cool a** Granny" - he called her the O.G. "Original Granny!"

After her work at On Line Computer Service concluded, in the early 1990s at the age of 50 Barb started a new career – working in the McKenzie County Tax Assessors Office in Watford City, North Dakota. A few years later she was promoted and served as the County Tax Director for twelve years. When no one else volunteered, Barb took on the McKenzie County mapping project that was necessary for implementing the 911 Emergency Service in the county. She enjoyed and found satisfaction in her work for McKenzie County, and was well respected by her colleagues whom she considered friends.



Barb's community service included the Yellowstone Township Board, Sioux-Yellowstone Fire District Board, McKenzie County Social Services Board, a Volunteer Income Tax Assistance tax preparer, and St. Catherine's Catholic Church Finance Council. She loved her Catholic faith and the St. Catherine parish community.

Barbara Bauman passed away peacefully on Saturday morning, October 1, 2022, from therapy-related myelodysplastic syndrome, a complication resulting from cancer treatments she received two years earlier. Barb was a resident of Fairview, Montana and East Fairview, North Dakota for nearly all her life.

She is survived by her daughters Diane Shannon (Gene Wildman), Christine Harris (Paul), and Jeanne Saarinen; grandchildren Adam (Tiffanee) Zelka with great granddaughters Maddie, Callie, Chloe and Macey; Drew Zelka (Marissa Pederson); and Samantha (Joe) Darnell. Also surviving are Barb's three siblings Betty Wright, Margie (Chris) Pappas, and Mike (Rosemary) Weber. Preceding Barb in death are her parents, her husband John Bauman, nephew Marcus Weber, brother-in-law Clay Wright, and son-in-law Todd Saarinen. Barb loved her family very much.