

The Lorrie Dyer Memorial Fund



Lorrie Dyer

Born in Souris on October 17, 1959, in the year of the “Blue Snow”, Lorrie was the youngest daughter to Ken and Vona Cochrane. She grew up on the family farm south of Elgin where her love for animals and appreciation for the land began. She enjoyed the activities that accompanied being raised in the country, as well as music, skating and playing fastball. Upon graduation from high school, Lorrie moved to Winnipeg to take post-secondary education at the Red River Community College to become a Dental Assistant. While working in Winnipeg she met Ian and formed many lifelong friendships. Lorrie then relocated to Brandon, and worked for a dentist, Dr. Brian Minaker. Later, Lorrie went on to become a hairdresser working from home and then an Educational Assistant at the Rivers schools. Lorrie and Ian married on July 11, 1981. They spent 41 wonderful years together raising their family, building their beautiful home and yard and farming on the Dyer Homestead near Rivers. One of Lorrie’s greatest joys was watching her daughters Danielle Laferriere and Taryn Claeys develop their talents and supporting them in pursuit of their dreams. Over the years, attending events, concerts and watching various sports teams remained a constant. Lorrie was blessed with the addition of her two sons-in-law, Jeremy Lafferriere and Cam Claeys. The addition of her two grandsons Brixon and Kohler Claeys brought the title of Nana, who loved them more than they will ever know. Lorrie was well-known for her active involvement in her community; she

served various roles and was frequently called upon for her creativity and attention to detail. She had a way that drew people to her and was blessed to have a large circle of friends whom she loved dearly.

Everything Lorrie aspired to do, she did wholeheartedly. Her hard work and dedication earned her awards and recognitions throughout her lifetime, some of which included: Best All Around Female (Hartney Collegiate), Sportsmanship Award (Brandon Ladies Fastball), Best Farmyard Grounds (S.W. Manitoba) and Runner-up to the Best Dressed Woman in Westman (Brandon Sun).

Lorrie's wish to provide her legacy within the community and area became a reality with the Lorrie Dyer Memorial Donor Advised Fund at the Rivers and Area Community Foundation. This fund provides a yearly grant to a group where their application falls into the categories of Music/Arts, Education and Sports.

Lorrie leaves a hole in the hearts of many who admired her bright smile, generosity, adventurous spirit and quick wit. She truly brought life to the party. As Lorrie would say: "wear the lipstick, buy the shoes, eat the dessert, use the fancy dishes, and dress to impress. Life's too short."