

Yvonne Marie Szpliet has returned home to her Heavenly Father. He saw she was getting tired and a cure was not to be, so He put His arms around her and whispered, "Come with Me." With tearful eyes we let her go and saw her slip away. Although we loved her dearly, we could not make her stay. A precious heart stopped beating, hardworking hands to rest. God breaks our hearts to prove to us He only takes the best.

Illness never held her down, her smile always bright. Her faith, warmth and spirit shall forever be our light.

She was born on May 24, 1968, in Manistee, Michigan, daughter of Edmund W. Guzikowski, Jr., and Kathleen T. (Pieczynski) Guzikowski. She attended Manistee Catholic Central School, graduating with the class of 1986. Yvonne married the love of her life, Jeffery S. Szpliet on April 17, 1993, in Manistee, and together they became one.

She is survived by her soulmate, best friend, and husband, Jeff; mother and father, Edmund and Kathleen Guzikowski; four brothers Eugene (Julie) Guzikowski of Arvada, Colorado, Phil Guzikowski, Luke Guzikowski, and Craig (Jamie Weed) Guzikowski; mother-in-law, Emma Szpliet; brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law Mary (Allen) Sundbeck, Paula (Ronald) Maes of Littleton, Colorado, Roberta (Mark) Dougher of Niles, Michigan, Michael (Evelyn) Szpliet, and Randy Cornell of Denison, Kansas; nine nieces, eleven nephews, and her beloved kitties, Junior and Sparky. Plus countless close and cherished friends.

She was preceded in death by a sister, Monica Mae Guzikowski, father-in-law Joseph Szpliet, and sister-in-law Barbara Cornell.

The family will receive friends at the Herbert Funeral Home on Wednesday, February 15, from 2 to 4 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. The family will also receive visitors two hours prior to the Joyous Celebration of Yvonne's Life, which is scheduled for 3 p.m. Thursday at Trinity Lutheran Church in Manistee. Pastor Dennis Rahn will officiate. Burial will take place at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, the family has established a memorial in Yvonne's name for Homeward Bound Animal Shelter of Manistee. Envelopes are available at the funeral home and at the church.

The Herbert Funeral Home of Manistee is in charge of funeral arrangements.