Cheryl Lynn Merical, 52

heryl Lynn Merical was born in Dexter on July 12, 1961, and she entered Heaven on April 15, 2014. She was the third child of four born to Carl and Gloria Allsup Merical. She attended schools in Grinnell and Brooklyn and was a 1979 graduate of BGM High School. She continued her education at the University of Iowa earning her Bachelors



and Masters Degrees in Special Education. Also during this time, Cheryl proudly served her country as a member of the United States Army and National Guard for many years.

Seventeen years ago she met Sean Casey, who became the love her life and they were married on Jan. 22, 2005, in Sicklerville, N.J. They lived in New Jersey for a few years after they were married and then moved back to Iowa to be closer to Cheryl's family. They were currently living at Lake Ponderosa near Montezuma. Cheryl was very passionate about helping her special needs children and since being back in Iowa she had worked for the Iowa DE and Des Moines Public School System. She was currently working for the Heartland AEA.

Cheryl was a loving wife, daughter, sister, aunt and friend and will always be remembered for her faith in God, her kindness and loving spirit. She will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved her.

She was a member of the Community Hope Church in Montezuma.

Those left to cherish Cheryl's memory are her husband, Sean Casey of Montezuma; her father and step-mother, Carl and Joan Merical of Montezuma; her mother, Gloria Merical of Adel; one sister, Crystal (Steve) Tommingo of Clive; two brothers, Tony (Jodi) Merical of Stuart, and Tim (Carol) Merical of Grinnell; one step-sister, Robyn Berado of Grinnell; her parents-in-law, Jim and Jodie Casey of Philadelphia, Pa.; one sister-in-law, Brandi Casey of Philadelphia, Pa.; and 15 nieces and nephews and their families.

She was preceded in death by her grandparents and her beloved pets.

A memorial service for Cheryl will be held at 10 a.m., Saturday, April 26, at the Valley Church, 4343 Fuller Road, West Des Moines, IA 50265.

Memorials may be made by doing any of these four options in Cheryl's memory: (1) find and go to a church of any denomination for one service in Cheryl's memory; (2) donate the dollar amount you would have gifted to our family to a local church; (3) anonymously purchase the meal for the next-military-service person(s) you encounter; (4) find a truly nice home for one of our cats.

The Smith Funeral Home of Grinnell is handling local arrangements.

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**Cheryl Merical** 

versity Hospitals in Iowa City.

Cheryl Merical, 52, of Montezuma, died Tuesday, April 15, 2014, at Uni-

6H-R 4-17-2014

' Services are pending at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell.