

Lorie Anne Chekal, 40

Lorie Anne Chekal, 40, Belle Plaine, died Wednesday, Dec. 5, 2007, in her husband's arms after a courageous lifelong battle with cystic fibrosis. Funeral mass was Saturday, Dec. 8, at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Belle Plaine with Fr. Mike Mescher officiating, along with the Rev. Brian Shipley and Deacon Joe Behounek.



The burial service followed at Koszta Cemetery.

Survivors include her loving husband of 18 years, John, and son Rex; parents, Roger and Kathy (Frese) DeMeulenaere; grandparents, Margaret DeMeulenaere and Betty Frese; brothers, Doug (Amy) and Dale (Marcy) DeMeulenaere; sisters, Julie (Danny) Cavin and Tamie (Demone) Square; sisters-in-law, Vicki (Rod) Blount, Kathy (Jr.) Martin and Tina Chekal; nieces, Jenny, Katy, Kim, Lauren, Drucila, Anna, Kadynce; nephews, Charlie, Josh, Tyler, Derek, Devyn, Luke, Ben and Sam; and four great-nieces.

She was preceded in death by her brother, Peter, grandfathers, Franklin Frese and Charles DeMeulenaere, father-in-law, John Chekal; mother-in-law, Irene Chekal; and brother-in-law, Jody Chekal.

Lorie was born March 29, 1967, in Cedar Rapids. She attended HLV schools in Victor and later obtained an associate degree in early-childhood development. Lorie married John Chekal on Sept. 2, 1989, in Belle Plaine. She worked beside her husband at their family business East Side Body Shop.

She will be remembered for always being there and taking care of her family, and having a courageous and loving heart. Her strength and endurance were an inspiration to everyone she touched. Her family mattered most to her and she loved spending time with her son, and numerous nieces and nephews, summers by the pool and traveling with her family.

Organist was Judy Parizek. Cantor was Anna Upah. Lector was Dr. Jenni Blount. Casket bearers were Josh Martin, Charlie Blount, Derek Cavin, Rod Blount, Jr. Martin and Lee Becker. Honorary casket bearers were Doug DeMeulenaere, Danny Cavin and Dale DeMeulenaere. Altar servers were Tate DeMeulenaere and Wes Spading. Gift bearers were Derek Cavin and Lauren Cavin.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.hrabakfuneralhome.com under "obituaries."

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