



Gary (605)272-5233

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Gary and Clear Lake SD
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Clear Lake (605)874-2191

Seasons in the Midwest

"To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:

A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted;

A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance;

A time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together; A time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; A time to get, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away;

A time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; A time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace" (Ecclesiastes 3:1-8)

It's harvest season in the Midwest and the farmers are hurrying to gather in the crop. Our weather has been absolutely beautiful for combining the grain and getting a start on fall tillage. The rains of late September were very welcome and will make tillage a bit easier. Please be cautious and considerate of the farmers and their equipment as we share the road.

Just Like Grandma
What's In Your Root Cellar?
Page 4-5

Fairchild Farmgirl
Halloween is Coming
Page 3

Ewe Knit It
We Know It
Page 7-8

Farm Safety Reminders For Harvest Season and Throughout the Year

Patti Haas

Large farm machinery like combines and tractors can have restricted visibility. They move slower and take up more of the road than a normal vehicle. Be prepared for them to make left turns into fields or farmsteads. Watch for the slow-moving vehicle signs and know their meaning.



The slow moving vehicle emblem was developed in the early 1960's by researchers at Ohio State University. Designed by Kenneth A. Harkness from the College of Agricultural Engineering, the emblem was a response to alarming statistics indicating the 2/3 of highway fatalities involved rear-end collisions with slow moving vehicles. By 1968, the emblem was specified in the National Uniform Vehicle Code, furthering its use and recognition across states. The adoption of this emblem has significantly impacted highway safety in this country and worldwide.

The emblem is a fluorescent red-orange triangle with a dark red reflective border, designed to reduce accidents involving agricultural and construction equipment and horse-drawn vehicles. It is a universal warning that the vehicle cannot exceed 25 miles per hour (35 mph in Minnesota) and alerts drivers to use caution around these vehicles. It is designed to be visible from a distance of 500 feet (600 feet in Minnesota). It must be clearly visible and not obstructed by equipment or other materials. It does not show how wide the implement is - very important when equipment is operating at night. It does not replace proper lighting or other required markings needed. Flashing amber lights on the rear of the implement are required from sunset to sunrise.

State laws require the emblem to be displayed on the rear of agricultural or construction equipment and horse-drawn vehicles while operating on public roads. It must be kept in good repair (not faded) and cannot be used to mark stationary objects such as a driveway or mailbox as that can confuse drivers.

Continued on page 7

Fairchild Farmgirl

Happy Fall y'all! Omgosh, This warm weather had me thinking that winter was waaaayyyy off. But as of today, it's 74 days until Christmas. Wowza!

Speaking of the warm weather though, my garden is nowhere near ready to shut down. Remember me telling you about how Ron and I thought it was a great idea to garden BIG this summer? Well that was sure a fun idea, but as we are picking 20 pounds of cherry tomatoes every 3 days and we only have two more market days until the end of the farmers market season, I'm telling you...I dream about a hard frost. But dreaming is all I get, because when I wake up and look at the thermometer each morning, it hasn't gone below 50 degrees. On the bright side, I made a fantastic marinara sauce out of 3 pounds of them, so if all else fails, we'll have a lot of that this winter.

In other October news, I catch myself reflecting back on when our kids were young and bringing them trick-or-treating for Halloween. There are some things that never got old, and that was one of them. Now, not only do I miss that, but I miss handing out candy also. No one comes out to the farm. So, I think I'm going to do something new this year: go somewhere to a trunk or treat and hand out candy. When I used to live in town and get so many trick or treaters, I was in absolute Heaven. I loved seeing all the costumes, hearing the squeals of littles as they pick treats out of the candy bowl, and I used to love getting the teens too, just out there collecting candy and staying out of trouble.

Speaking of Halloween, who used to make all their kids' costumes? Me too. I'd always have this grand scheme of something so cool, but half the time they wanted to go to Walmart and buy some junky costume for \$40, that would rip as you put it on. I'd rarely allow it, because it was such a waste of money. Do you remember what your coolest costume you made was? Well, I remember one of my kids dressing as a box of movie popcorn. That was cute! I made angel costumes, monster costumes, when I was pregnant and tired, they'd be a farmer, a rodeo cowboy or they'd dress like their carpenter dad (that was my favorite). Then we'd load up in the Yukon, (sweating to beat the band all the way to town because you'd always want them to be warm while walking so you'd put jackets or sweatshirts under their costumes) and walk until we wanted to drop.

Rachel's birthday is on Halloween, so that was always fun. She'd tell everyone that it was her birthday and people would always give her more candy. It used to make the other kids jealous (giggle).

Well you all have a great rest of the month. Revel in the magic of Halloween. Give a smile or wink to the kids that say thank you. If it's their birthday, load'em up. Or if that costume is homemade and mom or dad are walking with the kids, throw a Snickers their way.

Until next time,
Fairchild "I'm more of a giant lemonhead gal myself" Farmgirl



Thanksgiving DINNER

GARY, SD AMERICAN LEGION DANCE HALL
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26
11 AM - 3 PM

\$30 ADULTS | \$15 KIDS 5-12 | FREE UNDER 5
Tax Included

Featuring

Slow-Roasted Turkey • Pineapple-Brown Sugar Glazed Ham
Wood-Fired Angus Beef Stew • Homemade Gravy & Mashed Potatoes
Fire-Roasted Fall Veg • Hearty Seasonal Sides
Live Action Pasta Station • Fresh Salads
Assorted Holiday Pies and Sweet Treats

AND MORE!

Call or Text for Reservations
605-691-8139

Dietary restrictions? Let us know when you book so we can prepare safe food for you!

Seasons of the Past

Things our grandparents did in October to prepare their families and homes for winter

These seasonal chores all centered around staying fed and warm throughout the coming months. First was completing the year's food preservation which had been going on all summer with the canning of vegetables from the garden and fruits from the orchard. October was the time to gather and store the root vegetables in the cellar where it would be cool and dark. Potatoes were dug and allowed to dry before storing. Any with cuts or damage were sorted to be used first or they could spoil the rest of the harvest. All others were stored in a cool, dark bin in the cellar. Carrots were placed in damp sand to keep. Onions were braided and hung for storage. Beans were dried and stored in jars, safe from the mice. Winter squash and pumpkins were also placed into the cellar on shelves up off the floor (if there was one). Cabbage could be stored hung by the root or fermented in stone



crocks for sauerkraut. Seeds from the various vegetables were saved to plant next season's garden. Apples were picked and cider pressed. Some were dried for storage but the very best fruits were carefully wrapped in newspaper and stored in the cellar, never touching another. Butchering was usually done in the late fall when it was cold enough to prevent spoilage and the smokehouse used to cure many meats. More meat was canned for long term storage. Lard was rendered from the fat of the butchered hogs and tallow from the butchered beef.

The pantry was stocked with the staples of flour, cornmeal, dried beans, coffee, and sugar. Winters could be long and difficult with roads blocked and no access to the stores for weeks or months.

The family would need kerosene for lamps or candles to light their home through the dark winter evenings so these purchases were also made.

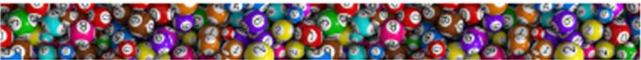
Now to prepare the house for winter - storm windows were put up and cracks and gaps were sealed as best with what was available, be that newspaper or rolled up rags. Many windows were covered with plastic when that became available. Homemade "draft snakes" were placed along the bottoms of doors and windows. Heavy blankets or quilts were hung over doorways of unused rooms in the winter months so as few rooms as possible needed to be heated. The houses were banked with straw or corn fodder to insulate the foundation. This would be covered with snow later to further insulate. Rag rugs or carpets were laid upon the cold floors. Worn out clothes were made into heavy braided rugs to insulate the floors.



It was the time to get out the winter clothing like heavy wool sweaters, long underwear, socks, mittens, hats, and coats and to make needed repairs to these items before winter set in. Heavy wool blankets and homemade quilts were brought out and inspected for any damage from moths or mice and were mended if needed. Warm, flannel sheets were put on the beds. Tools to warm the bed, such as bricks or river rocks for heating or hot water bottles were gathered.

The heating systems were inspected and flues cleaned in preparation for the upcoming heating season. Coal, if used, was purchased and the coal bin filled. This year's supply of seasoned firewood needed to be split and stacked where it was readily available to the house. Another year's supply of wood was cut. As this was most likely "green" wood, it was not burned until the following season but must be cut in preparation. Always a year ahead.

The farmyards were inspected and tools were tucked away. Anything that held water was drained as water freezes and expands which causes cast iron and metal buckets to break. The wooden stock tank, though, could take the freeze-thaw cycle. The well-house needed to be banked to prevent freezing through the winter. The barns were made ready for winter - the haymows were filled with hay and the cribs and graineries held enough grain for the livestock until spring came. Bring it on winter!





15 Games for \$15
per card

You Pick Your Bingo Card(s)

**Swap out cards between games if you choose.





Poultry Party: 15 rounds of regular Bingo, a single 50-50 Black Out Round, Wheel Spins between each round. Cash bar, Kids' Carnival, and Concessions!





50-50
BLACKOUT ROUND
\$5

Final Game of the Night
Jackpot is 50% of the Blackout Card sales if
Blackout is called within 50 balls.
25% after 50 balls.





Bring your kids to the
Gary American Legion
Poultry Party!

October 17 - Starting at 7PM!

Kids' Carnival Games in East Hall
While the Adults Play Bingo!

Kid's BINGO!



Bean Bag Toss!



Ring Toss!



and More



Prizes to Win!

\$5 for 20 Tickets!

Gary American Legion Dance Hall

AMERICAN LEGION
PEDEN-COLE POST #109
GARY, SD

★ ANNUAL ★
POULTRY PARTY



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2026
LEGION DANCE HALL • 7:00 PM
Bar Opens at 6:00 PM • Fun for All Ages!

BINGO

Win Turkeys & Hams!

WHEEL



RAFFLE

Cash & Turkey Prizes!

Penny Pitch!

#109 Supper Club opens at 5:30 PM
VETERANS SERVING VETERANS!

Concessions!

Sponsored by Thrivent

A Look Back...

125 years ago, October 1901

- Several cases of flu and colds in Gary
- Excavating begun on the new State School for the Blind building
- Teachers exam to be held at the courthouse
- Music program to be held IOOF hall Oct 18th
- Passenger train starts grass fire on SN Gray's place
- Marriage: Jane Wilson & Ole J Jesme
- Death: Albert J Campbell

100 years ago, October 1926

- Adolph Schmahl killed by a runaway team hooked to a corn binder
- Attempted robbery at Banwarth Garage
- Gary High School presents concert
- Local phone company turned over to Dakota Public Service Co.
- Prairie fire at Mahar place
- Marriage: Irene Banwarth & Hans Nelson
Barbara Kenyon & William A Howalt
- Births - Girls to Mr. & Mrs. Schwitzenberg
Mr. & Mrs. James Wells
Boy to Mr. & Mrs. Frank Miller
- Deaths: Adolph Schmahl - Catherine Ann Benner

75 years ago, October 1951

- L&L Motor Service new business in Gary
- Homecoming set for October 12th with Betty Moeller and Gus Van Steenberg Queen and King
- Eugene Helmberger breaks arm in fall from swing
- Heatons sell store to Ed Westgard
- RB Cochrane suffers broken ribs when tractor rolls
- Births: Girls to Mr. & Mrs. Russell Emerson
Mr. & Mrs. Chancy Olson
Mr. & Mrs. Harold Helmberger
Boy to Mr. & Mrs. Ed Kelly
- Deaths: Mrs. RB Cochrane - Mrs. John Runge

50 years ago, October 1976

- Fire call at Franz Vanderdoes farm
- Buffalo supper set for October 17
- Gary to host first annual meeting of the Deuel Telephone Company
- Mr. and Mrs. Robert Nicholas new owners of Shady Rest
- Sue Stone student of the month
- Deaths: Mrs. Rudolph Kieninger - Irving Heaton
- Auction: Ed Iverson

HALLOWEEN

DANCE AND HAUNTED HOUSE

7-10 PM 7:30-9:30 PM

GARY, SD
AMERICAN LEGION DANCE HALL

MUSIC BY
DJ Doreen

COSTUME CONTEST & PRIZES!!!

FREE ENTRY!

FRIDAY Oct 30 2026

Ages 18 & Under. Chaperone required for all youth under 10. Concessions will be available for purchase.

GARY LEGION AUXILIARY & GARY SD COMMUNITY CLUB

KIDS' HALLOWEEN

SKELE-BRATION

GARY, SD
AMERICAN LEGION DANCE HALL

FRI | OCTOBER 30 | 2026

LEGION AUXILIARY PARTY
5:30 - 6:30 PM
Ages 0 - 12
COSTUME CONTEST
Judging at 5:30 pm SHARP!
GAMES, TREATS, FISHING POND
HOT DOGS & LEMONADE

TRAIL OF TREATS & HOT COCOA
6:30 - 7 PM
at THE ALIBI
Contact Tina if you would like to hand out candy! 605-303-9190

HAY RIDES
6:30 - 7:30 PM

FREE YOUTH DANCE & HAUNTED HOUSE TO FOLLOW AT THE LEGION!

Assistance Needed

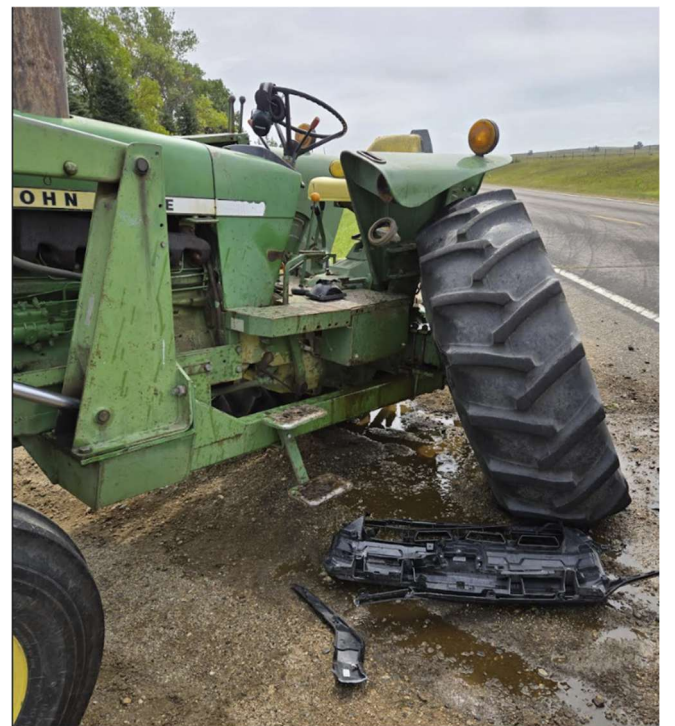
Does anyone recognize this photo or any of the people in it? A suitcase of photos was given to the Gary SD Historical Association and we're trying to identify them.



Beware of Drivers

Efforts are being made to improve motorist comprehension of the emblem and what is expected of the motorists when encountering one. When coming upon a vehicle displaying an SMV emblem, slow down, increase your following distance, and be prepared to pass safely when conditions allow. Exercise caution and anticipate the vehicle making unexpected turns .

This hit a bit close to home on Labor Day when my husband was operating a tractor on the highway and made a left-hand turn into the driveway and a pickup and trailer made an attempt to pass. No one was injured but the tractor suffered a bit. Please do your best to keep everyone safe this harvest season.



Where are They Now?

Betty Keimig Bray is a 1981 graduate of Gary High School. She is the daughter of Bob and Joyce Keimig. She went on to attend college at USD- Vermillion where she earned a degree in education and became a high school science teacher. She met and married her husband Kevin Bray, and they eventually settled in Yankton where Kevin established his medical practice.

But back to the beginning - Betty began crocheting in fifth grade when she made potholders for her mother. She kept at it while raising her four children and eventually opened her own yarn shop "Ewe Knit It" in Yankton in 2014. She is the sole employee/owner of her business. She was a crocheter, not a knitter, but this soon changed and she learned how to knit. The yarn doesn't care whether you knit or crochet, though you do find a bit of friction between the two factions. Whatever you can crochet, you could also knit - sweaters, afghans, mittens, hats- it's just the love of creating something from yarn. Bray finds the hobby to be very calming, and some studies have shown health benefits, especially neurological. Crafts like knitting and crochet and quilting - any of the fiber arts - help to slow the onset of dementia. Betty believes that is due to the hobbies keeping your brain alive. It's one of those things that once you get hooked, it's like an addiction, and there are certainly worse addictions you could have.



The main goal of opening her store was to provide high-quality yarn for people so they didn't have to leave town to find it. Until then, one needed to travel to Sioux Falls or Sioux City or order it online. As any fiber artist knows, you really want to touch and feel the texture of the yarn and see the true color. She believed that once people tried high-quality yarn, they wouldn't be satisfied with anything else. She was right.

She included the community by hosting "Knit Nights" where anyone can come and gather at the table with whatever they do as long as it doesn't take up too much space. Knit Nights run from 5:30 to 7 PM on Tuesdays and Thursdays. No judgment is allowed and there are no yarn police. Pop up events are held on some Saturdays- just watch Facebook. Once the business was up and running, Bray began to



bring in other aspects, focusing on sourcing from family-owned and women-owned businesses. In addition to an impressive array of yarns, she also carries handcrafted wooden yarn bowls from India. These hold the ball of yarn which feeds through a little hook for the project. They truly are a work of art for the home. Ceramic yarn bowls are sourced closer to home from Nevada City, CA. The shop also carries cross-stitch kits from Scotland and the Ukraine and bears from England from the Toft company. Toft was started by a woman who made toys for her son and now it's an international business making little animals and now, flowers and vegetables. In addition to these projects and yarns of all sorts, Betty sells all the supplies and needles that any knitter or crocheter could ask for.

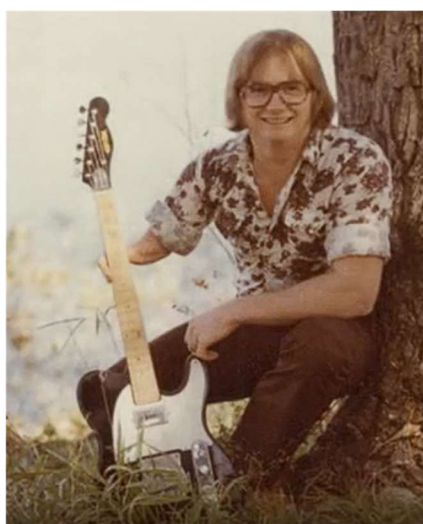
Bray loves to teach newcomers the ways to knit and crochet though she respects other people's techniques as well. There are several methods and each has a uniqueness to it. Betty offers both open classes and private lessons. Once football season is over and people have a bit more free weekends, she will host more classes. Beginner lessons are free, but students are asked to purchase their supplies from the shop. All other classes are affordable at \$10.

Ewe Knit It's current location in Tripp Park Plaza in Yankton is a bit small and Bray is looking to expand once she finds another location in the downtown area. With more room, she would be able to host bigger "Knit Nights" and other activities. More in keeping with her 'building community' priority. She has a huge collection of unfinished and barely started projects in her basement (it's not just me!) as well as more yarn. She often takes these projects apart and recycles them into new projects like hats that she donates to schools for needy children or distributes at The Banquet. She also contributes to "Knit the Rainbow" that provides hats and scarves and new and used knitwear for LGBTQ+ kids that have been kicked out of their homes. There are no local chapters but it's still a good thing to do. October is



Breast Cancer Awareness month, and Bray also supports this cause. She participates in Knit and Crochet in Public Day in June by sitting outside her shop with others and knitting or crocheting.

If you're just getting started, Ewe Knit It is the place to begin. Betty would love to help you learn the craft. Though fiber arts are great solitary activities, they are even better in a group setting. Crocheting and knitting are a universal thing, people the world around take part in the crafts. Try it, you might get "hooked"!

Galen Bekaert

August 10, 1960 -
September 17, 2026

Galen Justin Bekaert, 66, passed away peacefully on September 17, 2026, at his home surrounded by the people who loved him most.

Galen was born on August 10, 1960, to Raymond and Marlene Bekaert. He was raised in Gary, South Dakota, where he graduated from high school. It was during his childhood in Gary, with encouragement from his mother, that Galen discovered his lifelong love of music. He began playing the piano and learned to sing “The Auctioneer,” a talent that would become a cherished part of who he was.

Some of Galen’s fondest memories were of his days playing in the band and providing entertainment at dances in Gary. He carried those memories with him throughout his life and loved reminiscing about his childhood and the people and places that shaped him. Even in his later years, he continued to talk about his hometown and the happy memories he made there until frontotemporal dementia eventually took away his voice and gift of music.

Galen also had a natural talent for electronics. After high school, he found his calling in learning the ins and outs of electronics and turned that talent into a fulfilling career. He worked as a technical support engineer for Sanford Hospital for thirty years, a job he truly loved, before finishing his career at Daktronics.

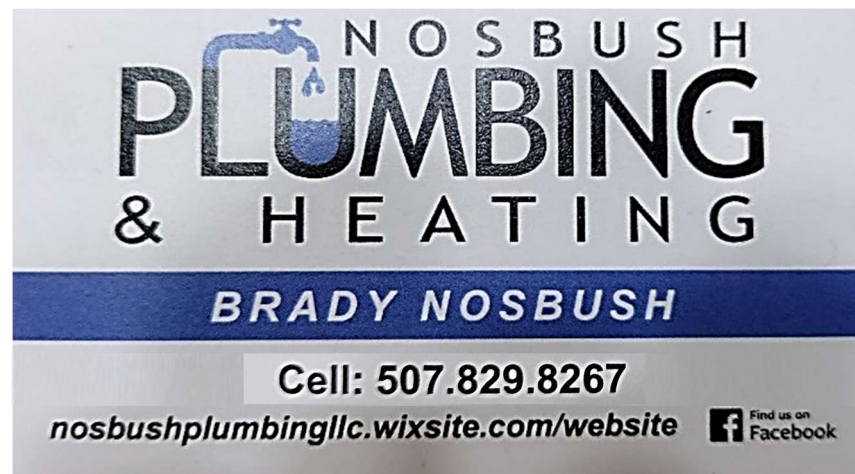
Galen was a devoted father and grandfather. He was married to Julie Nieman, and together they welcomed their daughter and his only child, Jessica, who was his pride and joy. Later in life, his grandchildren, Grayson and Julia Bentz, became an incredible source of happiness for him. He loved singing with them, teaching them the piano and guitar. There was no hiding the emotion in his eyes whenever they walked into the room.

Those who knew Galen will remember him as the life of the party—a man who could bring laughter into any room and make the people around him feel at home. He had a gift for making memories and a personality that was impossible to forget.

Galen is grateful to have shared his life with his daughter, Jessica Bentz (Chris); his grandchildren, Grayson and Julia Bentz; his mother, Marlene Bekaert; his brothers, Bill Bekaert and Gene Bekaert; as well as many cousins, nieces, nephews, and other family members and loved ones.

He was preceded in death by his father, Raymond “Ray” Bekaert, and his brother, Doyle Bekaert. Galen will be deeply missed by his family and all who had the privilege of knowing him. His laughter, music, stories, and love for his family will live on in the memories of those he leaves behind.

Condolences may be sent to Jessica Bentz [7830 N 154th Ave, Bennington NE 68007](https://www.google.com/maps/place/7830+N+154th+Ave,+Bennington,+NE+68007/@43.858,-103.158,15z/data=!3m1!1e3!3m2!1s7830+N+154th+Ave,+Bennington,+NE+68007!8m2!3m1!1sBennington,+NE+68007!3m4!1s7830+N+154th+Ave,+Bennington,+NE+68007!2sBennington,+NE+68007!3sBennington,+NE+68007!4sBennington,+NE+68007).



Karen Zahnow



May 17, 1955 -
October 2, 2026

Karen Zahnow, age 71, of Gary, SD, passed away at her home on Lake Cochrane on Friday, October 2, 2026. Memorial services were held at 2:00pm on Thursday, October 8th at Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church in Canby, MN. Visitation was from 5 to 7pm on Wednesday, October 7th at the Houseman Funeral Home-Birk Chapel in Canby, MN with a prayer service at 7pm. Visitation resumed one hour prior to the service at the church. Burial will be held at a later date at the Grandview Cemetery in Gary, SD. Houseman Funeral Home, Birk Chapel in Canby, MN has been entrusted with the arrangements.

Karen Marie Zahnow was born to Edward and Elizabeth (Bregel) Schwiderski on May 17, 1955, in Olivia, Minnesota. She was welcomed home by her older brothers and sister, Chuck, Bob, Mary, Mark, and Richard. She would later help welcome Sara, Tom, and Jim. Karen was baptized and confirmed into the Christian faith at St. John’s Catholic Church in Hector, MN.

After graduating from Hector High School, Karen moved to Canby with a friend and started working at Senior Haven Nursing Home. Here she met Douglas Hansen. They were united in marriage on May 10, 1975. Out of this marriage, they were blessed with two children, Eric and Tara. During this time, she worked at Bud’s Rec as a waitress.

Because of life changes, Karen started bartending and managing Murphy’s Bar in Canby. Here she met Michael Zahnow and were later married on September 24, 1988, and added three bonus children to her life: Dwight, James, and Kristeena.

After leaving bartending, Karen worked at Schott’s Corporation for many years. Here she made many life-long friends and memories. In 2012, she received her CNA and helped care for her friend Maggie.

Karen always enjoyed people and making them laugh or pulling a prank on them. You never knew what ideas she was going to come up with or what words were going to come out of her mouth. But one thing was guaranteed, you were going to have a good time. Karen treasured her grandbabies and any time she got to spend with them. She would also often bring home the “not so perfect” dog and convince Mike to keep it by naming it after one of his family members.

Grateful for having shared Karen’s life is her husband, Mike; children: Eric Hansen (Kari Norton), Tara Pederson (Scott), Dwight Zahnow (Adrienne), James Zahnow (Tracy), Kristeena Natte (Chris). Grandkids: Bryce, RyAnn, and Bryant Hansen, Regan Hansen, Aidan and Cole Pederson, Kaitlin and Adelie Zahnow, Gavin and Logan Zahnow, Samantha Zahnow, Calley, Dalton, and Abygail Petersen, Will, Gena, and Samantha Natte. Her Great-grandchildren: Gracelyn and Whaylon Petersen and Jasiah Natte. Her siblings: Mary Baumgarten, Mark Schwiderski (Jill), Sara Schliesing, Thomas Schwiderski, James Schwiderski, in-laws, Ginger Kanthak (Joe), Gloria Roggenbuck, Richard Zahnow, many nieces and nephews and dear friends.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Edward and Elizabeth Schwiderski; infant brother, Christopher; brothers: Charles, Robert, and Richard. Mike’s parents, Rudy and Margaret Zahnow. Sister-in-law Jody Zahnow, Brother-in-law Allen Roggenbuck, and nephews: Bobby and Joe Mark Kanthak.

**AMERICAN LEGION 109 CLUB**
1107 COTEAU ST. GARY, SD 57237

SERVING | 5:30 - 8:30 P.M.

TAKE OUT AVAILABLE CALL: 605-272-5832 during serving hours

2026 Schedule:
Oct 17th – Smoked Pork Chops
or Rib Eye **Poultry Party**
Nov 7th – Prime Rib
Nov 21st – Smoked Pork Chops
or Rib Eye
Dec 5th – Prime Rib
Dec 19th – Smoked Pork Chops
or Rib Eye
*Hamburgers also available

Follow us on Facebook:
[Gary SD Post 109 Supper Club](#)
[Gary American Legion Dance Hall](#)

Karen Ann Roske



September 5, 1947 –
October 4, 2026

Karen A. Roske, age 79, of Dawson, MN, formerly of Canby, MN, passed away Saturday, October 4, 2026, at the Rice Memorial Hospital in Willmar, MN. Funeral service was 10:30 a.m. Friday, October 9, 2026, at the Houseman Funeral Home, Birk Chapel in Canby. Visitation was Friday one hour prior to the service. Burial will be in the Grandview Cemetery, Gary, SD. Houseman Funeral Home, Birk Chapel in Canby is entrusted with the arrangements.

Karen Roske, born on September 5, 1947, spent her life surrounded by the devotion of her family. Raised on the Roske homestead near Gary, South Dakota, she relocated with her parents to Phoenix, Arizona, in 1959. During their eight years there, Karen attended the Perry Institute for special education. In 1967, the family returned to their farm and Karen attended the Developmental Achievement Center in Canby, Minnesota. Karen shared many faithful years alongside her mother on the farm until her mother’s move to the Good Samaritan Center in Clear Lake, South Dakota shortly before her death in June 2004.

Karen moved to Dawson, Minnesota to the Achievement Center after her mother’s passing. She later transitioned to Dawson Intermediate Care Facility for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities September 2011. During Karen’s early years here, she enjoyed attending church services and humming along with the hymns. While there, she found great joy in life's simple pleasures: listening to her favorite music, particularly Johnny Cash; flipping through magazines; and taking scenic drives, especially sitting outside on a nice summer day. She also loved the little treats that brightened her day, whether it was getting her nails done or shopping for her favorite chocolates. For the past 15 years, Divine House was truly Karen’s home, and the staff became her second family. She shared a deep bond with her caregivers, occasionally showing the spirited, sassy personality they all grew to love. Karen passed away peacefully early morning Sunday, October 4, 2026, at the Willmar Hospital. She is buried at Grandview Cemetery, Gary, South Dakota.

Karen was preceded in death by her parents, Donald and Pearl (Jesme) Roske; sister Janice (Roske) Jeronen; brother Dennis (Jane) Roske; and infant brother Gary Lee Roske. Throughout her life, she felt truly blessed by the love and companionship of her caregivers, and many aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Harley Harold Westphal was born June 6, 1958, and passed away September 3, 2026, at the age of 68.

He is proud to have his private pilot license.

He is survived by his brother, Paul Westphal and wife Donna; nieces and nephews, Mary "Shelly", Angela (Wayne), Charles (Carolyn); grand nieces and nephews, Chad (Victoria), Christopher (Sammy), Hayleigh, Issac, Alex and Paul; great grand nieces and nephews, Allison, CJ, Carson, Lola, and Maddie; and numerous extended family members and friends.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Harold and Esther Westphal; and sister, Eva Hauger.

Cremation was entrusted to Dorman-Riley Smith & Sons Funeral Home.

Harley Harold Westphal



June 6, 1958 –
September 3, 2026

The Gary Historical Association
Museum Membership

Name:_____

Address:_____

City, State, Zip:_____

E-mail Address:_____

Amount: \$ _____

Comments:_____


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Quality Service Freshness

Visit the Museum

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PLEASE CONTACT:
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605-272-5295
Carolynn Webber
605-272-5777

Gary Historical Assn's Officers
President – Patti Haas
Vice President – Ellen Schulte
Secretary – Gene Hults
Treasurer – Barb Stangeland

Board Members: Albert Bekaert, Carolynn Webber, and
Pam Hults.

GATE CITY GENERAL

A little bit of everything...

Monday - Saturday
8:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Sunday
8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

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Or email garylegionhall@gmail.com

If you have any story ideas or questions pertaining to the Gary area that could develop into an article, feel free to email them to ghainterstate@gmail.com.