

Colleen Learned

Memorial Program Endowment

Colleen Mary (Anderson) Learned was born to Adeline (Wisland) and John (Jack) Callahan in Minot, ND on January 23, 1954. She grew up in Ryder, ND after Adeline married Winston Anderson. Colleen graduated from North Shore High School in Makoti, ND in 1972, and from St. Luke's School of Radiology in Fargo, ND in 1974. She then moved to Cando, ND for her first job as the manager of the Radiology Department at Towner County Medical Center.

Colleen married Tim Learned in Ryder, ND on May 1, 1976, and they continued to live in Cando. In 1989, Colleen changed jobs and made the move (and the drive) to Mercy Hospital in Devils Lake, ND where she continued to work in Radiology. She enjoyed the challenges, experience and her co-workers, who were also great friends. She became certified in CT and was an active member of the ND Society of Radiological Technologists, serving for a time on the board and as president. Colleen became involved with ND Legislation regarding requiring a specialty in all modalities. It was important to her to support and protect the people and techs in critical access hospitals. Colleen truly loved her profession as a sonographer specializing in obstetrical ultrasound, and she dedicated herself to creating an awareness of the extreme need for professionals in the radiologic technology field.

Colleen retired on March 2, 2017. Tragically and unexpectedly, she suffered a stroke less than two weeks later. She passed away peacefully in June of that year at the age of 63.

Colleen loved spending time with Tim and their corgis, Ike & Quigley. She enjoyed exercising, Bonko, reading, and spending time with family and friends. She was an avid quilter for many years, and many were the grateful recipients of her skill and generosity. She was fortunate to attend quilt shows in Duluth, Chicago and Houston. As she transitioned to her retirement, she became involved with the Lutheran Church quilting group. Colleen also enjoyed traveling with her family to many locations throughout the US. One of her favorite trips was to Alaska, including Vancouver and Whistler, BC.

This endowment was established in Colleen's memory by Andy and Anita Lankowicz to provide perpetual support for the Dakota Nursing Program at Lake Region State College.



*“Life is short. Buy the shoes, eat the cake,
take the trip.” ~ Colleen M. Learned*