

Monte Jo Williams, 62, of New Rockford, ND, passed away peacefully during the early morning hours of Saturday, January 17, 2026, at Sanford Medical Center in Fargo, ND, after complications resulting from cancer and cancer treatment.

Monte was born on December 28, 1963, in Carrington, ND, to Merlin and Marlys (Haakenson) Williams. He spent most of his childhood on the family farm near New Rockford, where he milked cows and helped with other farmwork. He attended New Rockford Public School, where he enjoyed playing basketball. He was great at free throws and was skilled at the three-point shot even before it was established. Monte then attended Lake Region State College for automotive mechanics. His first full-time job was working as an automotive technician at Firestone/Bridgestone in Jamestown, ND, where he worked for 6 years, and he then worked at Walt Sanders in Jamestown as a service advisor/assistant manager for 3 years. He began working at Collins Aerospace in Jamestown in 1996 as an airplane cargo systems assembler, where he remained for 28 years until retiring in 2025.

Monte married Patty Kleingartner on August 18, 1990, and they made their home in Jamestown for many years before moving to Monte's childhood farmstead near New Rockford in 1997. There, they raised two children, Jewel and Jake, whom he was very proud of.

Monte will be remembered as an avid outdoorsman and nature lover who spent much of his free time hunting, fishing, gardening (especially varieties of hot peppers), rock hounding and metal detecting, and watching his favorite TV shows about the supernatural (especially aliens, ghosts, and cryptids), historical mysteries, and food. He also enjoyed camping and going on trips to the mountains with his family, watching thunderstorms roll in, eating and cooking new recipes, watching football and the Vikings, and listening to music, mostly rock and country. Monte exemplified a strong work ethic and dedication not only through his career but also through his renovations and continuous upkeep of the family farmstead, which he deeply cared about. Although reserved, he was a great storyteller and had an infectious sense of humor that he shared with the people he loved. His family meant everything to him, especially his children, and he worked hard to ensure that they would have a successful future.

Monte will be deeply missed by his wife, Patty Williams; his children, Jewel Williams and Jake Williams; his siblings, Dennis Williams (Eileen), Rhonda Williams, and Meranda Williams (Jeremy Roberg); his niece, Samantha Olafson (Adam; children McKenzie and Adrian), and nephew, Ryan Williams (Darlene; child Bayley); and all his friends and extended family members, including Shannon Riggie, Patty Swift (Randy), Jason Clifton (Jen Bahnsen), and Scott Clifton (Amy Hoyt).

He was preceded in death by his parents, Merlin Williams and Marlys Williams, and grandparents, Maurice and Floreine Williams and Clarence and Emma Haakenson.

# Celebrating

THE LIFE OF



*Monte Williams*

DECEMBER 28, 1963 – JANUARY 17, 2026

## *Morning Sunshine Blues*

The minutes pass by while I'm painfully dressing  
The tears flood my eyes, and I outwardly sigh.  
I look through my tears; My vision is blurring  
Until I look UP — and see the blue of the sky!  
And from the window the outdoors is beckoning —  
The outside is bathed in the morning dew  
To walk on the grass, it's a beautiful morning.  
Everything looks so fresh and new  
Even the birds sing in the morning  
Welcoming — the new day ahead  
As for me, there will be no more sighing  
And life is still good — as I lay on my bed.

by Monte's grandmother,  
Floreine Williams

## Celebrating The Life Of *Monte Jo Williams*

December 28, 1963 – Carrington, ND  
January 17, 2026 – Fargo, ND

### **VISITATION**

Friday, January 23, 2026  
1:00PM - 2:00PM

First Lutheran Church, New Rockford, ND

### **FUNERAL SERVICE**

Friday, January 23, 2026  
2:00PM

First Lutheran Church, New Rockford, ND

### **OFFICIATING**

Rev. Amy Kippen

### **SPECIAL MUSIC**

*In Loving Memory* by Alter Bridge  
*Everything I Own* by Bread  
*The Cowboy Rides Away* by George Straight

### **HONORARY BEARERS**

Jewel Williams and Jake Williams

### **BURIAL**

Mose Cemetery, Binford, ND at a later date

Arrangements by  
Evans Funeral Home – Carrington & New Rockford, ND  
[www.EvansFuneralHomeND.com](http://www.EvansFuneralHomeND.com)