

## **Michelle Bianco – BS 1989 Food and Nutrition**

Age 58 – Horace, ND

Dr. Michelle Kay Bianco was called home on November 23, 2024, with faithfulness and trust in Divine Providence.

Michelle was born on November 7, 1966, in Fargo, North Dakota, to John and Kathleen (Steffes) Altobell. She was raised in a loving and faith-filled home with her sister, Sheryl.

Michelle and Bob were friends for several years before dating and marrying. This friendship was at the core of their marriage. The couple was overjoyed to become parents to their two beautiful daughters Anna and Elise. Michelle was passionately devoted to her family. Her greatest blessing was being a mom.

Michelle was a curious child and lifelong learner. Studying medicine allowed her to be challenged and to serve. She was respected in her field of hematopathology because of her diligence and attention to detail. As a medical doctor, Michelle truly cared for her patients, which drove her to excel in her profession.

Michelle had a competitive spirit and pursued passions with enthusiasm. She played and coached basketball and led an active lifestyle. She embraced nature, outdoor activities and travel. She happily shared the gift of her photography with family, friends, and charities.

In 2021, Michelle was diagnosed with ALS, the most significant challenge in her life. Even amidst this tragic news, Michelle found strength in her Catholic faith and inspired many people throughout her courageous journey. In her words, the ALS diagnosis was “life-transforming.” Michelle lived with renewed vigor and generosity; she truly cherished each moment as a great gift. Each day of life was a treasure, and she spent the last few years creating many beautiful memories with her family and friends.

Michelle taught those around her the profound teaching of Saint Francis of Assisi: “Remember that when you leave this earth, you can take with you nothing that you have received - only what you have given: a full heart, enriched by honest service, love, sacrifice, and courage.” Michelle practiced each of these gifts, and she transformed into a model of virtue through her suffering.

Michelle is survived by her loving husband, Bob; cherished children, Anna and Elise; mother, Kathleen; sister, Sheryl and her children Ted and Amanda. She is preceded in death by her father, John. Mass of Christian Burial will be at 11:00am Monday, December 2, 2024, at St. Joseph’s Catholic Church Moorhead with a visitation and rosary one hour prior. Interment will be in St. Stanislaus Catholic Cemetery, Warsaw.

Donations in Michelle’s memory are preferred to the Dr. Michelle K. Bianco Medical School Scholarship Endowment (UND) and Saint Gianna and Pietro Molla Maternity Home.

“Thank you for my life. Help me live it well today!” - Michelle Bianco

Arrangements entrusted to Korsmo Funeral and Cremation Service of Moorhead, MN.