



Ph. 605-964-3614  
Gettysburg, South Dakota  
[www.familyfuneralhome.net](http://www.familyfuneralhome.net)

### *When I Am Gone*

*When I am gone, release me – let me go  
I have so many things to see and do.  
You must not tie yourself to me with tears  
Be happy that we had so many years.  
  
I gave you love,  
you can only guess, how much  
you gave me in happiness.  
  
I thank you for the love each have shown,  
but now it is time I travelled alone.  
So grieve awhile for me if grieve you must,  
then let your grief be comforted by trust  
It is only for a while that we must part  
so bless those memories within your heart.  
  
I will not be far away, for life goes on.  
so if you need me, call and I will come.  
Though you cannot see or touch me, I will be near  
And if you listen with your heart, you will hear  
All of my love around you, soft and clear.  
Then when you must come this way alone,  
I will greet you with a smile and  
“Welcome Home”*

*In Loving Memory Of*

# *Joan Amy Curley “Mitankala”*

*“Čanté Wašáka Win” (Strong Heart Woman)*

*May 19, 1967*

*Eagle Butte, South Dakota*

*July 15, 2022*

*Eagle Butte, South Dakota*

**WAKE SERVICE:** 7:00 p.m., Sunday, July 24, 2022  
CRST Bingo Hall ~ Eagle Butte, South Dakota

**FUNERAL SERVICE:** 11:00 a.m., Monday, July 25, 2022  
CRST Bingo Hall ~ Eagle Butte, South Dakota

**OFFICIATING:** Rev. Helene Circle Eagle,  
Dave West Sr., and Dana Dupris

**CASKET BEARERS:** Duane Curley, Jessup Yazzie, Wakinyan Maza Harden,  
Francis Addison Jr., Ezra Long, Phillip Dupris, Jay Clark,  
El'wyn "Beefy" Bear Stops, Lyn'dee Hill, LaChelle "Lushy" Turning  
Heart, Devin Curley, Francis Addison III, and Jeryn Charles

**HONORARY CASKET BEARERS:** Dupris families, Lafferty families, Wet Skirt  
families, Cook families, Thompson families, Josie Jiron, Kota Dupree,  
Nola High Elk, Denise High Elk, Lacey Hale, Bonita Shot At,  
Jewell Bruner, Mona Marcelle, Bob "Local Bob" Eagleman, Ben LaPointe,  
Wesley & Doris Wolfe, Audra Hill, Michelle Chasing Hawk, Cante Heart,  
Ty Garreau Sr., Colby "Ida" Sands, Eldora Black Eagle, Sarah Clown,  
Dan & Kim Yellow Horse, Beverly Clown, Sherri Red Elk, Joy Circle  
Eagle, Maxine Flying By, Carl "Bono" Dupree family, Susie Payne family,  
Patsy Long, Sherry Red Fox, Laura Red Fox, Blaine Dog Eagle, Travis  
Harden, John Mestes, Connie LeBeau, Diane Pretty Weasel,  
Sharon Brings Plenty, Jolene Curley, Mary Ellen Traversie,  
Kathy Red Dog, Beth Ducheneaux, Valerie Curley, Bella Meeter,  
Lyndon Langley, Linda Frazier, and all her friends and family.  
Special thanks to her favorites that helped throughout her last days:  
Carmen Annis, Charlene Traversie, LaChelle Turning Heart,  
Kristine Traversie & Connie Clown.

**MUSIC:** Wakinyan Maza Drum Group and All Musicians Welcome

**INTERMENT:** Iron Lightning Family Cemetery  
Iron Lightning, South Dakota

**Joan Amy Curley** was born to Cecil and Amy Iron Lightning Curley on May 19, 1967 in Eagle Butte, SD. Joan was the youngest of fourteen children, she was the baby of the family. Joan grew up in Iron Lightning, SD and later moved to Eagle Butte, SD. Joan attended school in Eagle Butte and later got her GED. Along with getting her GED she also got a certificate in painting. Joan moved back to Eagle Butte and had different jobs throughout her life. Throughout her life Joan lived in Rapid City, Sioux Falls, Saint Paul, Oregon, and Dupree.

On February 5, 1985, she welcomed her first child, Jonnelle Rae Curley and on March 19, 1998, D'Shawn Star Eagle Chasing. Joan had nine grandchildren: Jeryn Charles, Jhet'Taun, Drew, Kai'Viaun, Khaida, Kelson, CJay, Leroy and Covin.

Joan enjoyed life; she was always ready for a good time. She made many friends everywhere she went. She enjoyed being around her many nieces, nephews, and grandchildren. She helped raise some of them throughout her life.

Joan's adopted families: Jaeson Starr, Carmen, Kaye, and Floyd Annis, Patsy Long family, the late Duke and Carole Dupree families, Russell and the late Cordelia Benoist families, Eagle Staff family, and Emily Lawrence. After a long battle with her health in June, Joan decided that she no longer wanted to fight and just to live her last days surrounded by family and that's just what happened when the family got the call/text that Joan wanted to journey on, the family came to be by her side for four weeks. She brought the family together to laugh, cry and just sit and visit with each other, remembering Joanie the way she wanted. When she took her last breath, she was surrounded by her loved ones. She will be missed dearly. Joanie was a strong woman, and although she experienced illness and her body was shutting down, her heart remained very strong. Her brother, Jr., gave Joan her Lakota name "Strong Heart Woman"

Joan is survived by her daughter, D'Shaun Star; grandchildren: Jeryn, Jhet'Taun, Drew, Kai'Viaun, Khaida, Kelson, CJay, Leroy and Covin; sisters: Linda Addison, Amelia (Chris) Curley, Melissa (Marcell) Jewett and E.Rose (Dane) LeBeau; brothers: Keith (Deloris) Curley, Jr. Curley, and Irving Curley; and many nieces, nephews, and grandchildren.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Cecil and Amy Iron Lightning Curley; daughter, Jonnelle Rae Curley; sister, Grace Agneaux; brothers: Arlen, Mervin Andrew (Big A), Myron, Kenny, and Danny Curley; nephews: Terry and Jerry Curley, Grant Langley, CJ Addison, Joe Brown Wolf, Courtney "Koko" Curley, and Misun Curley; nieces: SherRon Langley, Tessa and Jean Curley; and grandchildren: Kyle and Koy Curley.

In Joan's famous words "Wakinyan Maza all my life, Peace out."



*Joan A. Curley*

1967 - 2022