

## **Kathleen Benson, 50**

*June 3, 1953 - Nov. 15, 2003*

**GREELEY, CO** – Kathleen A. Benson was born June 3, 1953, in Council Bluffs, to Roger and Joan Reineke. She graduated from Avoca High School in 1971. Following graduation in 1974 from Jennie Edmundson Hospital School of Nursing in Council Bluffs, she worked as a nurse at Children's Hospital in Omaha, NE, until 1978. She moved to Cheyenne, WY and was employed as a nurse by Memorial Hospital of Laramie County.

Kathy married R.A. "Dick" Dixon Sept. 5, 1981, and their son, David, was born Nov. 7, 1982. Kathy continued her nursing career at Memorial Hospital for 11 years, serving as a charge nurse in orthopedics and same day surgery.

After her husband's death in 1985, she later met and married Bob Benson of Greeley, CO, in May of 1989. She continued working as a nurse in pre-and post-operative care at Northern Colorado Medical Center until her declining health kept her at home. Kathy received a great honor in her nursing career when she was nominated for the Florence Nightengale Award in 2003. She died Nov. 15, 2003, in Hospice and Palliative Care of NCMC, after an eight year heroic struggle with cancer at age 50.

She was preceded in death by her first husband, one grandmother and two grandfathers. Kathy is survived by her husband, Bob Benson of Greeley, CO; her son, David R. Dixon of Ft. Collins, CO; stepson, Jeremy Benson of Greeley, CO; stepson, Richard Dixon (Michelle) of Cheyenne, WY; parents, Roger and Joan Reineke of Avoca; brother, Bob Reineke (Donna) of Treynor; one grandmother, Lillie Reineke of Avoca; two nephews; one niece; two grandchildren; and other relatives.

A memorial service was held Nov. 19, 2003, at Two Rivers Fellowship, Greeley, CO. Graveside services were held Nov. 29, 2003, at the Oak Hill Cemetery in Hancock. Pauley Knutson Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.