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Janette Evans, 41

Dec. 9, 1963 - May 12, 2005

SHELBY — Janette Joy Ehlers Evans was born Dec. 9, 1963, in Council Bluffs, daughter of Donald and Madeline Coontz Ehlers, and was the youngest of six children in her family. Jan grew up on the family farm in Harrison County and attended the Shelby-Tennant Schools. She was baptized at the Minden Congregational Church. In 1975, Jan moved to Harrison, AR, with her mother and a year later, they were joined by her father. Because of Cystic Fibrosis disease, Jan found it easier to breathe where there was less pollen and dust. She was able to achieve her educational requirements and later received her G.E.D. She and her parents moved to Springfield, MO to be near a doctor who specialized in C.F.

While in Springfield, Jan met and married Kerry Evans. They lived in several areas of the country which had better climates to accommodate her illness. Jan moved to San Diego, CA, to live for a short time. In January of 2003, she moved back to Minden to be with her father who was ill. It was during her time back in Iowa that Jan renewed an old childhood friendship and later became engaged to Gregg Marshall. She applied for a double lung transplant and was accepted on the list of candidates and in April of 2004 she moved to St. Louis, MO to await the transplant. She lived there for eight months but a bacterial infection kept her from receiving the transplant. In December of 2004, she returned to live in rural Shelby, and in January of this year was admitted to the Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha, NE, where she lived until the time of her death. Jan had a very dedicated fiancé, family, friends and hospital staff who helped her through the difficult months and years of her life. She had recently qualified and was listed for a double lung transplant at Fairview Hospital in Minnesota, and just before her death she achieved #1 status on the listing. Jan died May 12, 2005, at the Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha, NE, at age 41 years, five months and three days.

Jan was preceded in death by her father, Donald. She is survived by her mother, Madeline Ehlers of Council Bluffs; her fiancé, Gregg Marshall of Shelby; brother, Larry Ehlers (Dianne) of Persia; four sisters, Donna Jahn of Springfield, MO; Peg McCool (Eugene) of Shelby; LaRee See (Randy) of Harrison, AR; and Sandy Schnoor (Ron) of Manilla; nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Memorial services were held May 20, 2005, at the Minden United Church of Christ. Pauley Jones Funeral Home, Avoca, in charge of arrangements.