

KELLY MARIE SOWDER



Kelly Marie Sowder was born to Orrin and Cheryl (Limbo) Carstensen in Philip, South Dakota on February 24, 1979. At the age of two, her family moved to Gillette, Wyoming. She attended Wagon Wheel Elementary, Twin Spruce Junior High and Campbell County High School. In high school Kelly was one of the first members to be a part of the Junior City Council. She was also a part of COE, and worked at NAPA her junior and senior years in high school. Kelly graduated from high school in 1998. She continued to work for NAPA until she began employment at Foundation Coal in 2001, driving truck and blade. Kelly joined the Gillette Jaycees, holding every local office possible and several state offices. She won many awards for her excellent leadership, speaking skills and planning successful projects. Kelly always thought of others more than herself never wanting to miss the opportunity to help others. She won local president all three trimesters and local president of the year for the State of Wyoming in 2003, was first partner for the first trimester and for the year in 2005 and the prestigious Wyoming Pioneer in 2009. Under her leadership the Gillette Jaycees completed several community projects, such as Christmas presents and Easter baskets for children in need.

On February 28, 2004, Kelly married Frank Sowder in Las Vegas, Nevada. Franklin John Sowder was born on July 10, 2005. In 2005, after the birth of her oldest son John, she transferred to the Purchasing Department for Foundation Coal. Nickolas Dean Sowder was born on August 1, 2007. she appreciated being home at night with her sons. Kelly was an excellent mother to her two sons, going to Johns' s school activities, taking the boys to do special things, and reading books at bedtime. Kelly enjoyed family camping and fishing trips in the Black Hills.

Kelly is survived by her husband, Frank Sowder of Gillette, Wyoming; sons: John and Nickolas Sowder both of Gillette, Wyoming; parents: Orrin and Cheryl Carstensen of Gillette, Wyoming; sister, Kathy (Jason) Carson of Gillette, Wyoming; nephews: Kyle, Kody

and Keygan Carson of Gillette, Wyoming; sister, Kerry Carstensen of Gillette, Wyoming; aunts and uncles: Bill and Sheila Limbo of Sturgis, South Dakota, Arlys and Albert Seaton of Clear Lake, Iowa and Charles and Ruth Carstensen of Philip, South Dakota and Doris and George Craft of Rapid City, South Dakota; mother and father in-law: Leitha and Gene Sowder of Gillette, Wyoming; brother-in-law, David Sowder of Gillette, Wyoming many cousins, several great aunts and uncles.

Memorials are suggested to benefit Kelly's children, and donations can be made in her name to any Bank of the West.