

B 7H 7-31-03

Mary Ellen "Mare" Dubovich, 49

Mary Ellen "Mare" Dubovich, 49, Bonners Ferry, Idaho, formerly of rural Bovey, died Tuesday, July 15, 2003 in St. Francis Hospital, Tulsa, Okla. after a long, courageous battle with cancer.

She was born Jan. 20, 1954, in Grand Rapids, to Eli and Mary Dubovich. She was a graduate of Greenway High School and the University of Minnesota.

She worked more than 20 years as a wilderness guide, counselor, program creator and director, staff trainer and administrator at Rocky Mountain Academy in Bonners Ferry, Idaho.

She worked as a nurse in Rochester, Albert Lea and Grand Rapids before traveling throughout the west and working as a youth and family counselor, mountaineering guide, and master of organization and logistics.

She loved to ski in the back country mountains of the West and was a member of the Professional Ski Instructors of

America.

Her work in and love of mountain travel brought her to obtain a Wilderness First Responders certificate and to active participation in Idaho Search and Rescue as a trainer.

In the early 1980s, she was a primary developer of RMA's therapeutic wilderness program that was recognized as the premiere program of its kind in the country.

Those who knew her, including hundreds of her former students, knew her as a caring, passionate, and loving person who taught them to embrace life with intention and purpose.

She loved the wilderness and her work with youth in the outdoors. She had a significant impact on those who came into her life.

Her own children provided her with constant pride and enjoyment. She will be missed by all.

She is survived by her husband; Dan Krmpotich; three beautiful children, Luka, Anya

and Micah; her mother, Mary Dubovich, rural Bovey; sisters; Terri Dubovich (Nick Davis), Chicago, Ill., and Barbara Dubovich of Anchorage, Alaska; brothers, George (Ann) Dubovich, Andover and David Dubovich, Eagan; nephews; Michael and Jacob; niece; Alicia; father-in-law, Mike Krmpotich of Bonners Ferry, Idaho; and sister-in-law, Mary Krmpotich (Norm Niskauen), Lake Havasu City, Ariz.

Preceding her in death were her father Eli Dubovich in 1996 and brother Daniel in 1999.

Services were held Sunday, July 27, at Peterson Funeral Chapel, Coleraine.

There will be another memorial service on Sunday, August 17 at Twin Rivers Canyon Park.

A memorial fund has been set up at Zion's Bank in Mare Dubovich's name.