



Alvin Gail Picotte

June 27, 1941 - September 5, 2024

Alvin Gail Picotte passed peacefully on September 5, 2024, at Ball Hospice House.

Al was born June 27, 1941, to Alvin Edward Picotte and Vylla Grace (Schunk) Picotte just as the noon whistle blew. He's been raising rucus ever since!

Al grew up on the Cheyenne River Reservation in South Dakota and was proud of his Yankton Sioux heritage. He was an avid basketball player. The kids on the rez wouldn't pass him the ball because he had blue eyes. None the less he became a star forward and played in state championship games. Go Battlers!

Al graduated from Gettysburg High School, Northern State University in Aberdeen, South Dakota, received his master's from the University of Minnesota, and his Education Specialist Degree from Central Michigan University. He moved to Sault Ste. Marie to be Superintendent of the Michigan branch of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, where he was instrumental in securing Indian Treaty Rights. He later joined Sault Ste. Marie Area Public Schools and retired from there. He said the most fun job he ever had was teaching Civics at Sault High School.

Al was an avid golfer, and once had a hole-in-one on the 6th hole at Sault Ste.

Marie Country Club. He was a fisherman and hunter – his trophy bucks decorate the family room.

Al was a faithful member of Faith Lutheran Church for forty-four years. His beautiful baritone enriched many services, he was an enthusiastic member of Monday Morning Gospel Singers.

Al is survived by his wife of forty-seven years, Dixie; sons, Charles (Michelle) Picotte of Cedarville, Michigan, Douglas (Jenni) Picotte of Dripping Springs, Texas, and Allan Picotte of Rosemount, Minnesota; daughters, Jane of Kinross, Michigan, Tracy of California; grandchildren, Joseph (Mary) of Hessel, Victor Gordon of Kincheloe, Maddison of Kincheloe, Marshall (Bailey) of San Marcos, Texas, Libby of Dripping Springs, Texas, Briana (Max) AL Taquatqa of Farmington, Minnesota, Emma Rose of St. Paul, Minnesota; great-grandchildren, Clare, Leland, Wade, Nora and Hunter.

Celebration of Life will be held at Faith Lutheran Church 1600 Park Ave. Sault Ste. Marie, MI, on Friday, September 13, 2024. Visitation will be at 11:00 AM with services at 1:00 PM. Burial will be at Union Cemetery in Maplewood, MN, on Monday, September 16, 2024 at 11:00 AM. Please gather at the office at 10:45 AM to proceed by auto to the gravesite.

Memorial Contributions may be made in memory of Alvin, to Lutheran World Hunger.

Family Life Funeral Homes assisted the family with arrangements. Condolences may be left to the family at www.familylifefh.com.

As submitted by family.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

SEP **13.** 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Faith Lutheran Church
1600 Park St.
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

Funeral Service

SEP **13.** 1:00 PM (ET)

Faith Lutheran Church
1600 Park St.
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

Burial

SEP **16.** 11:00 AM (ET)

Union Cemetery
2505 Minnehaha Ave. E.
Maplewood, MN 55119

Tribute Wall



“ *My deepest sympathies to you and your family Dixie. I was so sad to hear about Al :(sending my love and hugs to you*

Janie

Janie Myrom - September 21, 2024 at 10:37 AM

AB

“ *Mr. Picotte was my civics teacher and my driver's ed teacher. He and I didn't always get along...However, my favorite memory with him was when we were supposed to drive on a Saturday, but he canceled and bought a new car. Of course, he wouldn't let us drive it, but he did "wiggle" our numbers around a little, and we didn't have to put in the fully required amount. After high school, I cut his hair a handful of times at the salon I was working at. I haven't seen him in years. My condolences are with the family.*
-Angie Benoit-Bonnee-

Angie Bonnee - September 17, 2024 at 11:10 AM

LF

“ *My deepest sympathy to you and your family Dixie. 🙏*

Linda Forgrave - September 11, 2024 at 04:50 PM

DB

“ *Our memories of Al and Dixie will always be as strong as Al's voice and the beauty of his lovely wife. Dave and Judy Bloom*

davd bloom - September 11, 2024 at 08:51 AM

JC

“ Jennifer and Dave Corbiere planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Alvin Gail Picotte.

Jennifer and Dave Corbiere - September 10, 2024 at 01:16 PM

SA

“ As the Superintendent of the B.I.A. Michigan Agency, Al hired me in the Realty Department. He continued to support me in advancing my career in the Federal Government, that I'm truly grateful. Many good memories working with him. Prayers to Dixie and his entire family 🙏

Shirley Van Alstine - September 10, 2024 at 12:22 PM

TF

“ The Douglas Picotte Family purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Alvin Gail Picotte.



The Douglas Picotte Family - September 09, 2024 at 04:37 PM

TF

“ The Douglas Picotte Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Alvin Gail Picotte.

The Douglas Picotte Family - September 09, 2024 at 04:37 PM

CE

“ I knew Butch(Alvin) as a teenager when he lived at the Cheyenne Agency. He and others at the time went high school in Gettysburg. A good guy my sister fell in love with in high school. They married and had Allan, Douglas, and Tracy. When they were divorced we as a Family never divorced him. What fond memories we have of you Butch. I see by your obituary that you continued to make fond memories for those you loved around you.

You loved to sing..I remember you coming home from work picking up your guitar and singing to Tracy. I loved singing with you too. I know your wife Dixie and your children will miss you greatly. Butch thank you for the memories you left behind for others to remember you by.

My condolences to your Family at this time. Rest in Peace.

Connie Hansen Edris

Connie Hansen Edris - September 09, 2024 at 04:32 PM

JO

“ Dear Dixie and family: Sending deepest sympathy in your loss of Al. I am so glad I was part of the Monday Morning singers who got to sing with you and Al just a short time ago. He will be welcomed with angels as he joins his beautiful voice in music. Joyce Henderson



joyce - September 09, 2024 at 12:55 PM

TW

“ Tina & Dennis Wurster lit a candle in memory of Alvin Gail Picotte



Tina & Dennis Wurster - September 09, 2024 at 11:41 AM

KS

I had the distinct privilege of meeting and getting to know Al when he and my brother struck up a friendship while residents of Cedar Cove and will forever be grateful for his participation in Carl's funeral service with his stirring rendition of "In The Garden". Dixie, our hearts are hurting for you. Dianne and Ken Schmitigal

Ken and Dianne Hanna Schmitigal - September 11, 2024 at 05:08 PM

CM

Al will be greatly missed. So sorry I was unable to attend services for him. We will miss his beautiful voice singing at Faith.

Connie & Bob Mattson - September 14, 2024 at 08:05 PM