



Jerry Saude and Sonna Anderson
Tree Dedication May 19, 2019

Sonna was born in Bismarck in 1958 to Harold and Corynne Anderson. She was brought up in this church, baptized, confirmed, married, baptized her sons, and was buried through this church (1st Lutheran in Bismarck)

Sonna attended public schools in Bismarck, then UND with a business major and then attended law school at the University of Denver. During her time at UND she minored in Norwegian, taking classes from Arne Brekke and spending one year abroad in Trondheim, Norway. Upon returning to the US she completed her studies and returned to Bismarck to practice law with her father. For nearly 20 years she handled just about everything a lawyer can do, as many North Dakota lawyers frequently do. She enjoyed adoptions and disliked divorces. She argued before the ND Supreme Court and eventually applied for an appointment to the judiciary in 2003 to fill a vacancy. Governor John Hoeven did see that her many life experiences and personal qualifications were just what he wanted in a District Court Judge and he appointed Sonna to begin a career on the bench in early 2004.

Sonna was involved in many community events and organizations, but one of the dearest to her was Sverdrup Lodge. She joined in 1989 and jumped right in by helping with the Language classes, and that leads us to another story, but next I will tell you a little about Jerry.

Jerry Saude was born in Rugby to Alton and Esther Saude in 1959 and grew up in Roseau and Adam, MN. Jerry attended college at Bottineau and NDSU in Fargo, graduating with a BS in Animal Science in 1982. He wanted to be a Veterinarian but organic chemistry could not penetrate that Norwegian head! Jerry returned to Rolette and lived with his grandmother, Clara Hagen on the farm that he would eventually buy from his mother and uncles. He began planting trees for the Rolette Co. Soil Conservation District in 1982 and was offered a position with them later that summer. He remained there and became the District Manager until his grandmother's death.

He then came to Bismarck to join fellow Sverdrup member Otto Bervik at the ND State Land Department in 1991. Through Otto's recruitment Jerry joined Sons of Norway because he had an interest in exploring his roots and learning the language. Guess who the language teacher was? It was Sonna! They married in 1996 and were soon joined by Sigurd in 1997 and Bjorn in 1999. Through the years they have remained active in leadership roles in Sverdrup Lodge and the District family camp, Trollfjorden, which

Sonna took over as Director in 2015. Jerry was also involved in the District and International Sons of Norway as a delegate and committee member. Jerry is currently the Sverdrup Treasurer.

Jerry and Sonna took his parents Alton and Esther Saude to Norway in 2000 leaving young Sigurd and Bjorn with their other grandparents Harold and Corynne Anderson for 3 weeks. They took a boat ride up the Sognefjord and then a train to Oslo and in a rental car visited with family in Gudbrandsdal and Trondelag. They even spent a couple nights in Sonna's old room that she rented while attending school in Norway in 1978. Sonna and Jerry returned to Norway in 2014 with Sigurd and Bjorn and traveled 1800 miles in a car touring Norway's west coast and central regions, again making contact with as many extended families as they could fit in within 3 weeks.

Sonna has 3 brothers, Eric, Odin and Thor and a new found sister Carol. Jerry has 4 brothers – John, Jim, Tim and Terry and one sister Tammy.

Sonna resigned from her judgeship in 2018 due to failing health and passed away just 2 months ago, in March.