



Karen Joyce Rothermel

February 7, 1957 - March 9, 2023

Karen Rothermel was born to Sigurd and Grace Hanson in Minneapolis, Minnesota on February 7, 1957. She passed away in her sleep March 9, 2023 in her Roseville home.

Karen was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, aunt, sister, and friend, but most importantly a committed follower of Christ. Karen graduated from Drake University with her B.A. in Fine Arts, Journalism, and Graphic Design and worked as a graphic designer in Des Moines, Davenport and the Twin Cities. Soon after her move to Minneapolis, she met her husband Steve; they married and purchased a home in Roseville where they raised six children together. Karen gave herself to the home education of her children, bringing her love of the Lord, travel, the arts, and music to their experiences. Karen was known and loved by many. She was approachable, and genuine, with a large heart.

Karen was an active member of churches throughout her life, including Grace Church Edina, Grace Church Roseville, and Grace Community Fellowship. She loved to play her flute in churches, ensembles, and orchestras. She was an avid photographer; she especially loved the North Shore, and capturing photos of her children and grandchildren. She had a passion for art, painting with watercolors and acrylics. She worked as a freelance graphic designer, re-entering her field after her children were grown. She loved to encourage developing artists in their work, and others in their vocational pursuits.

Karen will be missed by many. She was a connector who loved to draw out

the stories of others. She shared her life without pretense. She had a zest for life, loved to laugh, and have conversations with almost anyone she met. She is survived by husband, Steve; sons, Aaron (Liz), Paul (Keturah), Andrew (Vanessa), Nathan and Daniel Rothermel; daughter, Kelsey (Chase) Carlson; grandchildren, Lydia, Maria, Amelia, Silas and Asher; sister, Carol (Gary) Ganser; brother, Mark Hanson; nieces, nephews, and extended family and friends.

In addition to flowers, memorials may be given to:

New Horizons For Children (<https://nhfc.org/>)

Feed My Starving Children ??(<https://www.fmssc.org/>)

Visitation Friday March 17th from 4-7 PM at Holcomb-Henry-Boom-Purcell Funeral Home, 515 Hwy 96 W., Shoreview.

Funeral Service 11 AM Saturday, March 18th (visitation 10-11AM) at Bethlehem Baptist North Church, 5151 Program Ave., Mounds View.

Interment Crystal Lake Cemetery.

Tribute Wall

SC

“ So sorry for your loss. Susan Stirn Conibear.

SUSAN CONIBEAR - July 30, 2024 at 04:11 PM

TB

“ I am grateful to have met Karen in February 2023. She was a sweet, lovely lady. She was so proud of her kids and family.



Tanya Blakemore - March 20, 2023 at 12:00 AM

PY

“ Deepest sympathies to the entire family. Celebrate her life and cherish the memories made.



Paul Yager - March 18, 2023 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ Rejoicing that Karen is home but so sad for you all. You are in my prayers.

Justina Siedschlag - March 18, 2023 at 12:00 AM

KM

“ Karen's service on Saturday will be
livestrmed

<https://thenorthchurch.com/special-event>



Karen's brother Mark - March 17, 2023 at 12:00 AM

KP

“ My condolences to the Rothermel family for their deep loss.

Kenneth Parsons - March 17, 2023 at 12:00 AM

RJ

“ Hi Steve, I am so sorry to hear about Karen.
You all must be devastated even with your
deep faith in the Holy One. Grieve well old
friend that you all recover well in the days to
come. The Son will come out again after the
storm clouds pass
Love You All,
Rich



Richard E Jewett - March 16, 2023 at 12:00 AM

SA

“ Dear Rothermel family,
Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you at this time. Wishing you peace, comfort, at this time. It was an honor to meet you 2/24/23 at MSP as we waited to board our plane and shared a plane ride together. We strongly believe that Heavenly Father orchestrated that meeting, a Divine Appointment. The time spent was uplifting, encouraging shedding a light on Psalm 37:23.

You Remain In Our Prayers,
Sean and Karen Akins
Plymouth, MN

Sean and Karen Akins - March 15, 2023 at 12:00 AM

PH

“ I am sorry to hear of the loss of my friend and artist. She was such a sweetheart and had such a love for people. We were part of a group of artists who met every Tues night to encourage, laugh and share our lives. Karen always shared and talked about her husband Steve, her kids and grandkids, and all that they were doing with their lives. She loved you all so much and was so proud of all you did and are that we felt like we knew you all personally. Karen and I were travel buddies and went on our first trip to the Gathering of Artisans in March 2022. We were both so excited to be going and we met all kinds of people on that trip. One of her favorites was the lady cab driver who picked us up when we came to the conference - we were so fascinated with her story about being an adventurer and renaissance woman that Karen told everyone we met about her life. My heart is heavy to learn of her passing but I sing to know she answered when the Lord called her. It leaves us sad and feeling lost but we are so grateful to know that He loved her so much that He came and took her Home to be with Him. God bless and safe journey Karen - we will miss you and your beautiful heart and art.
Peggy



Peggy Hicks - March 15, 2023 at 12:00 AM

DW

“ Steve and Family Pat and I are out of town got the news about Karen when we were checking email earlier this week. We mourn her loss with you but Praise God that he has brought her to Himself and that we will Join her at Christs side some day. We will miss her soooo much!



Dave Warwick - March 13, 2023 at 12:00 AM

LA

“ My dad, Dr. Orville Aftreth, and your mom, Grace Aftreth, were brother and sister. I was asked by your mom to babysit you, your sister, Carol, and your brother when I was around 12-15 years of age. I loved you sooo much then and have loved you since then. My younger sister, Dr. Faith Aftreth Bolam and Karen were very close together as they shared their love of Jesus and art, blessing all those that loved the two of them, including me. I look forward to seeing you, Karen, in Heaven with all the Aftreths. You were a blessing to all of us here on Earth. Lydia Grace Aftreth



Lydia Grace Aftreth - March 13, 2023 at 12:00 AM

MH

“ Karen knew how to enjoy life on earth and is now enjoying life in heaven. Last summer ☀️ we took our bikes 🚲 around Roseville, Karen turned off road riding the dirt trail giggling like she was 60 years younger!



Mark Hanson - March 12, 2023 at 12:00 AM

AA

*“ I am so sorry to hear of Karen's passing, she is in a lot of my fondest childhood memories. Most teenagers wouldn't have given the little kid next door the time of day, but she would hang out with me and chat. I know now that I was a pest, but she handled me with grace, always. Up to asking me to handle the guest book at her wedding, an honor I was thrilled to handle.
Karen, thank you for your kindness, and I hope you're enjoying your reunion. You will be dearly missed.
May her memory be eternal.*



Amy (Pitman) Arvanis - March 12, 2023 at 12:00 AM

MK

*“ We are thanking The Lord for dearest Karen & all of you, missing her, of course, and yet rejoicing that she is with Jesus, face to face, now, along with so many loved ones! We are praying for each one as we grieve with you over our loss of Karen while we rejoice in the joy of having been with her & each of you! Alleluia! Praise The Lord!
May the circle be unbroken...xoxo
Love, Cousin Miriam & Fam*

Miriam Aftreth Keeseey - March 12, 2023 at 12:00 AM

MG

“ Dear Rothermel Family -- we are so sad to hear of Karen's passing. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all during this hard time -- especially Daniel. May God comfort you as only He can, and give you hope in the truth that she will be waiting for you along with your Savior, Jesus. Much love from our whole family.

Matt and Shani Gibbs - March 12, 2023 at 12:00 AM

PF

“ I was shocked and saddened at the passing of Karen....we exchanged phone calls,emails,and texts over the past years.....I pray for g
GODS comfort and help in this huge sudden loss.....Karen was a wonderful Christian Lady,wife,sibling and person....I know she is in Heaven joining her mom Grace, Dad Siguard ,Grandparents,aunts ,uncles and cousins...
I will continue to pray for her family....
I am not sure if i can attend the visitation and service but i will join you in prayer .
Peter Aftreth Cousin in Alaska and family

Peter and Becky Aftreth Family - March 11, 2023 at 12:00 AM

JR

“ We are saddened to hear about Karen. She will be greatly missed.

Jill and Mark Reller - March 11, 2023 at 12:00 AM