



Karen Rieke Widhalm

May 29, 1942 - February 13, 2023

Karen Rieke Widhalm 80, passed away surrounded by family on February 13, 2023 at Kearney Regional Medical Center. Memorial services will be 10:30 am, April 27, 2023 at 1030 am at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Kearney NE with the Pastor Chad Anderson officiating. Memorials are suggested to the family to be designated later.

She was born Karen Marie Hellbusch on May 29, 1942 to Robert and Marie Hellbusch. She grew up in Reynolds NE where she graduated high school in 1959. She attended Fairbury Jr College and graduated in 1961. She married Terry Rieke on June 10, 1962. Karen and Terry had three children, Randy (Kellie) Rieke, Robyn (John) Schultheiss, and Roxann (Gregg) Holliday. Karen and Terry lived many years in Aurora NE, where Karen was owner of Travel Concepts. She and Terry enjoyed travelling and sharing these adventures with their kids and grandkids. Terry passed away in January 2005.

Karen married Micheal Widhalm on August 25, 2007. Karen and Mike spent many years enjoying their work with the Orphan Grain Train in Norfolk, NE. They moved to Kearney in May of 2020.

Karen loved cooking, growing her own herbs, birdwatching, quilting, going to movies, and spending time with her kids and grandkids putting together puzzles and playing games.

She is survived by her husband Mike, her children, grandchildren, sister Dawn, and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband Terry, her parents, and her brother Norman.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

APR **27**. 10:30 AM (CT)

Trinity Presbyterian Church
3910 22nd Avenue
Kearney, NE 68845
<http://tpckearney.org>

Tribute Wall



“ *Pink Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Karen Rieke Widhalm.*



April 25, 2023 at 01:46 PM



“ *Mike and family, My sympathies to you at the passing of your dear bride, as you always called her, mother, and grand-mother. May God's peace be yours today and in the days ahead.*
John & Karen Mangels

Karen Mangels - February 20, 2023 at 02:06 PM



Thank you, Karen and John

Michael Widhalm - March 20, 2023 at 07:32 PM



“ *Karen was my favorite aunt. The most positive and loving person I will ever know. My first memory when I was 18 months old was her husband terry taking a picture of me. Love you Karen!*

lisa (hellbusch) rennert - February 19, 2023 at 10:58 PM



Thank you, Lisa

Mike Widhalm - March 03, 2023 at 05:05 PM

JJ

“ *Julie Jensen lit a candle in memory of Karen Rieke Widhalm*



Julie Jensen - February 17, 2023 at 02:40 PM

PS

“ *Met Karen & Terry in Benkleman NE where Terry was teaching & coaching. My husband, Dale, coaxed with Terry & we were all 4 involved in scouting. Always counted them as friends even as we drifted apart in distance. I now live in Cottonwood, AZ & will not be able to attend services. My true condolences go out to all the family.*
Peg Shandera

Peg Shandera - February 16, 2023 at 01:15 AM

DW

“ *We Widhalm Girls will miss Karen! Great Lady!*



Dunja Widhalm - February 15, 2023 at 09:08 PM

CN

“ *I remember all the camping outings and the card nights. So many fun times with Terry and Bill and their antics. Dear friends and memories I will not forget. All were blessed to know Terry and Karen Rieke.*

Cheryl Nygren - February 15, 2023 at 04:53 PM

HW

“ *This is our favorite memory of aunt Karen! She has so much patience and love to pass on memories from her past. We will miss you*



Heather Wemhoff - February 15, 2023 at 03:41 PM