



Karen Kay Albeck

October 1, 1948 - December 30, 2015

Karen K. Albeck

RACINE-Karen Kay Albeck went to meet with her Lord peacefully during her sleep early in the morning on Wednesday, December 30, 2015 at her home. Karen was born to Carl and Kay Albeck on October 1, 1948. She is the older sister of Lynn Albeck Szabo. Karen was in the graduating class of 1966 from William Horlick High School and resided in Racine all her life.

She was a life-long member of Holy Communion Lutheran Church, was active in the Democratic Party, was a member of Phi Delta Kappa and served many years in the Exchange Club of Racine.

As a young woman, she worked as a legal secretary for the office of Dennis D. Costello. She completed majors in English and Sociology at UW-Parkside, and a Masters Degree in Administration and Supervision from UW-Milwaukee. Karen started her 30-year career in education with the Racine Unified School District as an English teacher at Gilmore Junior High. Subsequently, she worked as an Individualized Education Coordinator at J.I. Case High School, using her background in sociology to provide structure and future planning for at-risk and special needs students. She advanced her career by becoming Supervisor of Student Services, District Coordinator for Section 504, which included being Principal of the Juvenile Detention and County Jail Education Program.

In 2003, she retired from her active career to serve as full time caregiver for her mother. Her selflessness in providing a safe and comfortable home in

Kay's final years was a tremendous blessing to her family. Following Kay's death, Karen returned to work in a 'green' industry, Plasma Technics, Inc. She resumed an involved and service-oriented lifestyle as a trustee for the village of Mount Pleasant, advocating for fiscal responsibility.

Karen is remembered for her kind and caring heart, and generous, giving nature. She valued family connections and traditions, and always welcomed visiting relatives and friends.

Surviving are Karen's sister, Lynn (Joe) Szabo of Arlington Heights, Illinois, and her beloved nephew and niece, Peter Szabo of Arlington Heights and Lisa Szabo of Minneapolis, Minnesota; and many relatives, cousins, colleagues and close friends. Karen was preceded in death by her parents.

Visitation will be at Sturino Funeral Home, on Tuesday, January 5, 2016 from 4:00 – 7:00 PM, and will continue on Wednesday at Holy Communion Lutheran Church, 2000 West Sixth Street, from 10:00 AM until service at 11:00 AM. Services will be conducted by Pastor Mark Doidge and Rev. Morris Vaagenes of St. Paul, Minnesota, dear cousin of Karen and Lynn.

Karen will be laid to rest at Graceland Cemetery immediately following the church service.

In lieu of flowers, those wishing to remember Karen in a special way may direct memorials to Holy Communion Lutheran Church or a charity of one's choice.

Cemetery Details

Graceland Cemetery

Racine, WI

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 5. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Sturino Funeral Home
3014 Northwestern Avenue
Racine, WI 53404
(262) 632-4479
info@sturinofuneralhome.com

Visitation

JAN 6. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Holy Communion Lutheran Church
2000 W. 6th Street
Racine, WI

Memorial Service

JAN 6. 11:00 AM (CT)

Holy Communion Lutheran Church
2000 W. 6th Street
Racine, WI

Tribute Wall



“ *Sturino Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Karen Kay Albeck*



Sturino Funeral Home - January 04, 2016 at 03:33 PM

JS

“ *Dear Lynn
My own health precludes my expressing my condolences to you in person.*

Karen and I worked together for the Racine Unified School District, and after I retired, I worked for her when she directed the program for at-risk unified students. She was a good friend, though we had little contact during the past several years. I pray that you and others close to her, have comfort and peace.

Sincerely,

John Swan

John Swan - January 05, 2016 at 12:52 PM

LB

Dear Lynn, I want to give my condolences My Mum Lorraine Miller were very good friends there three of us would have good time when we went out...Mum just passed Nov. 6..now they will be together, Karen had a heart of gold..Her and I were talking about going to lunch and she offered to sit for my dog.. What a shock to here she passed.. I am sick or I would come to visitation. .GOD BLESS you!!

lorraine Barth - January 05, 2016 at 06:30 PM



“ 56 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Sturino Funeral Home - January 04, 2016 at 02:55 PM

BV

“ *In March 1996, Karen invited me to join her for a weekend trip to Oslo, Norway. It was amazing and will always be one of my favorite memories. We did lots of sightseeing -- even saw and heard Pavarotti singing on the street in Oslo! -- visited with relatives and, of course, went shopping! Even though I am the oldest of all the Albeck cousins, I always admired the example Karen set with her dedication to her family and career. She has left a wonderful legacy.*
Barbara Albeck Vallone

Barbara Albeck Vallone - January 04, 2016 at 01:15 PM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Karen Kay Albeck.*



January 04, 2016 at 10:29 AM



“ *Karen was a dear friend! She always was willing to be of assistance wherever she was needed. Thank you Karen-- you were kind, caring, and compassionate.*
Dennis and Shelley Costello



Dennis and Shelley Costello - January 03, 2016 at 01:22 PM



“ *As a Horlick classmate of Karen's, it was always a pleasure to visit with her when classmates gathered for monthly breakfasts. She was friendly and kind to me when I returned to Racine after many years. It was obvious that she was struggling with health issues for some time and amazing to see her determination to attend the gatherings to see her friends. It seemed that she must have brought this same determination to her past careers and Village position. I will miss her! But find that I am glad the struggles are over for Karen and that she is at peace.* *Carol Burow Gianforte*

carol burow gianforte - January 03, 2016 at 06:55 AM

HC

“ Karen was a dear friend, a very intelligent, caring and dedicated person. She worked as my legal secretary for many years. We shared interests in travel and politics. Karen worked very hard on my campaign for Circuit Court Judge in Racine. I attribute her diligence and contacts with the success in my election. She had a kind heart, always willing to help out on somebody's project not taking credit for the final result. Karen had an easy laugh, one I can still hear today. Karen you were an inspiration to me. I will never forget your kindness. Love, Hon. Dennis D. Costello

Hon. Dennis D. Costello - January 02, 2016 at 10:11 PM

RO

“ Hello,
I am so sorry to hear of Karen's passing. I hope you find some comfort knowing that she went peacefully in her sleep. I enjoyed working for and with Karen during my tenure at RUSD. I loved her passion for education and her advocacy for all students. I know she was a huge comfort to her mom and provided her with great care and undying love. I will always think of her fondly. Many prayers to her family and friends.

Blessings,
Roseanne Nelson

Roseanne - January 02, 2016 at 12:52 PM

JA

“ Karen and I grew up together. Kindergarten through high school. In the summer there were 4 of us that would get together every day at various houses and play card games or board games. Sometimes we would ride our bikes to either the zoo beach or north beach. After high school we lost touch. About a year and a half ago I found her on Facebook. I stayed with her for 5 months. We caught up on a lot of stuff. So glad I was able to do that. Will miss you Karen.
Janice

Janice - January 02, 2016 at 09:41 AM

KW

I was aware that Karen had health problems so I am not surprised that she has left us. It is still sad news. She left us too early. As was the case with all of my fellow classmates of '66 I had not seen her since I graduated on that day in June so many years ago. I remember it as if it was a month or so ago. I can still see Karen in my minds eye as she was back then walking the halls of Wm Horlick. She accepted me for what I was in my rough state with a lot of growing up to do with a smile. I am glad I got to see Karen again even though it was in the twilight of her life. One thing I will always cherish is her support for my music. For that I am grateful.
I will be there tomorrow for the visitation.

Keith Watling

Keith Watling - January 04, 2016 at 07:55 PM