



Karen Ridlon

October 24, 1967 - May 24, 2016

Karen Ridlon, a 48-year-old resident of Little Falls, MN passed away Tuesday, May 24, 2016, at her home in Little Falls, MN. A memorial service will be held at 11:00 A.M. on Saturday, June 4, 2016, at the Shelley Funeral Chapel in Little Falls, MN with Father Joe Herzing officiating. Burial will take place in Oakland Cemetery in Little Falls, MN. A visitation will be held from 10-11 A.M. on Saturday, June 4, 2016, at the Shelley Funeral Chapel in Little Falls, MN.

Karen Sue Ridlon was born on October, 24th, 1967, in Marshall, MN. She was the second daughter of Ben and Jackie Ridlon. Karen spent her childhood in Marshall and attended Holy Redeemer Catholic School and later Marshall Senior High School. Karen went on to further her education and graduated with a degree in cosmetology at the Aveda Institute in Minneapolis, MN and a business degree from Southwest State University in Marshall, MN. Karen had a lengthy career in cosmetology and won first place in the National Photo Contest at the Barbers National Competition. Eventually, she fulfilled her dream of owning her own salon. Through the years, she had many clients who became close friends. Her latest occupation was working at the St. Cloud Hospital, in St. Cloud, MN, as a Respiratory Care Assistant. She was also studying to become a Registered Nurse. Karen lived a very fruitful, fulfilling life. She was adventurous, free-spirited and had a strong passion for traveling. Her travels brought her to many places around the world, including many trips to Europe to visit family. Although she loved to travel, Karen was able to find

solace while knitting quietly at home accompanied by a cup of coffee and her dog Zeus. Karen also enjoyed running, biking, kayaking, working out, hunting and much more. She ran the Grandma's Marathon in Duluth, MN. She also completed a bicycle ride from Minneapolis to Chicago for the Aids Life Cycle Foundation to raise money and awareness. She was very dedicated to helping others and later joined the United States Army at the age of 40 years old. Karen had many joys in life but found the most joy when spending time with her family. Her two sons, John and Ethan, and grandson Nolan held the largest place in her heart. She was very affectionate and had one of the softest of souls. She had a smile that could light up the world and a belly laugh that would leave us in tears. Karen's small frame was home to the biggest, most genuine heart. She was truly adored by so many. She will be remembered as a beautiful, hardworking, devoted mother.

Karen is survived by her two sons, John and Ethan; her parents, Ben and Jackie; her sister, Tammy Bukowski; and her grandson, Nolan Doom. She is further survived by nieces, nephews, cousins and many other relatives. She was preceded in death by her grandparents, Rose Webb and Alyce and Robert Ridlon.

Cemetery Details

Oakland Cemetery

14820 138TH ST
Little Falls, MN 56345

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 4. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

LeMieur Funeral Home of Little Falls
214 2nd Street SE
Little Falls, MN

Service

JUN 4. 11:00 AM (CT)

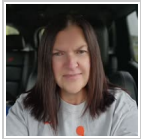
LeMieur Funeral Home of Little Falls
214 2nd Street SE
Little Falls, MN

Tribute Wall



“ *Karen Ridlon*

January 21, 2023 at 11:59 AM



“ *I met Karen as a result of needing to find someone in Marshall who could cut and style my biracial daughter's curly locks. Karen was so thoughtful and gave me good advice on how to care for my daughter's hair. Sometimes I'd just stop in her salon to talk when I was in the neighborhood. She was such a good mother. Rest in peace Karen.*

Sarah Banks - July 23, 2016 at 08:44 AM



“ *Karen, My heart is aching with grief. I will always remember your sweet, giving personality, and honesty. I will treasure our friendship always.*

Susan Blair - June 09, 2016 at 03:02 PM



“ *My sympathy to Karen's family. Karen was a very ambitious and kind lady. Rest in Peace, Karen, you will be missed.*

Elaine Sook - June 09, 2016 at 12:45 PM



“ *Karen, you will always have a place in my heart. You introduced me to my love Denise. You were so sweet and caring?*

ken - June 08, 2016 at 10:45 PM

RO

“ I am truly, truly sorry for your loss. My deepest sympathies for the loss of a beautiful person. When I dated Tammy in high school , I will always cherish the memories of the fun I had teasing Karen and enjoying her company. Even though I haven't spoken to her in many years I always felt a connection to her like having a little sister. Rest in Peace Karen

Rob

Rob - June 08, 2016 at 07:53 AM

DS

“ Love to the family of Karen Sorry I lost track of her these last few years She was my Beautician Made me look better then I was always See you in heaven Karen

Donna Schuelke - June 07, 2016 at 03:30 PM

JL

“ My thoughts and prayers are with Karen and her family. I worked with Karen many years ago. She was always such a positive person to be around. The world has lost a very sweet person.

Jackie Lage - June 06, 2016 at 12:38 PM

BB

“ We were so sad to hear of Karen's passing. She was too young to die!
Jon, Ethan, Nolan, and Karen's entire family are in our thoughts and prayers at this sad time.




Beth Blomme - June 06, 2016 at 11:08 AM

SV

“ I will surely miss that smile. I had recently connected with Karen after many years. My thoughts and prayers to the Family.

Steve Vandendriessche - June 05, 2016 at 10:42 AM

 Dorothy Krogen

“ I knew Karen from the salon and our sons in elementary school.....We shared many conversations and her endless energy was contagious. We lost touch the last few years , but I was was so saddened by her passing. Rest in peace and may you find comfort in God's arms.
Dorothy Krogen

Dorothy Krogen - June 04, 2016 at 09:07 AM

 Julie Ahmann

“ Dear Ridlon Family...today and always, may loving memories of Karen bring you peace, comfort, and strength. Karen was a beautiful person and a great friend. I feel truly blessed to have known her and will miss her incredibly. With deepest sympathy, Julie Ahmann



Julie Ahmann - June 04, 2016 at 08:37 AM

DH

“ Denise Hegna lit a candle in memory of Karen Ridlon



Denise Hegna - June 03, 2016 at 08:44 PM

KW

“ *Kelsey Warnke lit a candle in memory of Karen Ridlon*



Kelsey Warnke - June 03, 2016 at 02:10 PM



“ *Growing up she always made sure that her son and I had whatever we needed to have fun. She was so unselfish and loving! Praying for the family!*

Lucas Christoffer - June 03, 2016 at 01:53 PM

TS

“ *Our sincere thoughts and prayers to Karen's family. I knew Karen when our boys were little to her doing our family's hair. Her spirit for life was always so uplifting. God bless you, Karen. Bill, Terry & Brandon Stacken*

Terry Stacken - June 03, 2016 at 11:00 AM

MM

“ *Thinking of Karen's family. Steve and Mary Maertens, Ashley and Morgan Schreurs*

Mary (Schreurs) Maertens - June 03, 2016 at 07:50 AM

RU

“ My husband Mark grew up with Karen. When we moved from CO to MN, Mark wanted me to meet Karen. We walked into the saloon and when she saw Mark she instantly stopped what she was doing and ran to embrace him. Mark introduced me and I was then instantly embraced too. From that moment I had a new friend. She was amazing to me. Beautiful, full of life and so generous. Mark and I are very saddened she is gone. May you rest in peace you sweet angel!

Rubertus - June 03, 2016 at 07:32 AM

BR

I met Karen when we worked a Vacation bible school together at St Mary's in St Cloud about 5 yrs ago ...she was a such kind soul and made everything we did that week so fun! I ran into her a few yrs later when we unexpectedly met as we were both working at the Hospital and she smiled and gave me a big hug ...like we were friends forever! She will be missed...i will not forget her. God's peace to her family .

Brenda - June 04, 2016 at 12:26 AM

SB

“ Praying for comfort for all Karen's family, especially Jonathan and Ethan..her two biggest blessings in this life. Jonathan & Ethan, you have friends who care in Texas..should you ever find yourselves down here..

Shelley Bukowski - June 02, 2016 at 11:34 PM

 Dana
Rons

“ Dana Rons lit a candle in memory of Karen Ridlon



Dana Rons - June 02, 2016 at 10:35 PM

KB

“ *Prayers to Karen family*

karen baumgarter - June 02, 2016 at 04:12 PM

SB

“ *Stacey Byrne lit a candle in memory of Karen Ridlon*



Stacey Byrne - June 02, 2016 at 02:39 PM

TF

“ *Tina Nielsen & family purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of Karen Ridlon.*



Tina Nielsen & family - June 01, 2016 at 08:01 PM

LM

“ *I worked with Karen at Creekwood Apartments many years ago, when Jonathan was just a baby. I was very happy to reconnect with her on Facebook a few years ago, and hoped to see her again. I am now so saddened to learn that she is gone. Such a tremendous loss. My heart goes out to her sons and family.*

Liz Maltby - June 01, 2016 at 03:17 PM

TF

“ *The Bukowski family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Karen Ridlon.*



The Bukowski family - June 01, 2016 at 11:51 AM

DB

“ *My prayers and sympathies to Karen's boys. I spent hours with her getting my hair done. She was a mentor parent to me raising a son on my own. She was so kind, fun, and loving. She lived life with determination. Jon and Ethan may you cherish her memories, feel her love as an angel in your life. She touched many people's lives through her giving. I cannot believe she is gone. Hugs to you boys. Your Mom loved you dearly.*

Dianne B - May 31, 2016 at 08:38 PM

KS

“ *I will forever remember the hours spent at your salon over the years and how that 1 hour appointment would turn into 3 hours full of heartfelt conversations. Karen, you are a beautiful person on the inside and out. Your kind, fun, giving, and thoughtful nature touched so many and all my prayers are being sent to your boys and everyone that loved you so much. I hope you are finding peace in God's arms, you will never be forgotten.*

Kris Serreyn - May 31, 2016 at 05:09 PM

ER

“ *I love you mom you will never be forgotten you have no idea how many people care*

Ethan Ridlon - May 31, 2016 at 12:41 PM

SA

“ *Summer Alsaker lit a candle in memory of Karen Ridlon*



Summer Alsaker - May 30, 2016 at 09:06 AM

JM

“ *Karen, I cannot believe you are gone. I would give anything to be able to talk with you one more time. I will always treasure the memories I have had with you. You have no idea how much you will be missed, but I am thankful I had the blessing of being your friend. Love ya.*

Julie Mikel - May 29, 2016 at 10:14 PM

JD

“ *To the family of Karen, you're in my prayers in your time of sorrow. I can't believe she's gone. May God watch over her. Karen was such a great person and friend. She will be greatly missed by all. Blessed be her memory.*

Jim Dwire - May 29, 2016 at 07:02 PM

PM

“ *Wishing you comfort during this terribly sad time. Karen was such a kind and loving soul. She will be missed by all who knew her.*



Paula Miki - May 29, 2016 at 12:00 PM

MK

“ *My deepest sympathy to the family if Karen, Karen was such a loving and kind person. She took such wonderful care of my sister and mom at the hospice house in Marshall. She was a wonderful friend and such a beautiful person.*

Marcia Klaith - May 28, 2016 at 11:29 PM

SD

“ *So sorry for your loss..... you are in my thoughts and prayers*



Shawn Dobrenski - May 28, 2016 at 11:09 PM

CD

“ *My deepest sympathies. I have such great memories of Karen and I working on a dollhouse project in middle school - I don't think we ever finished it!*



Christine Duffy - May 28, 2016 at 09:54 PM

SS

“ *Sarah Shoffner lit a candle in memory of Karen Ridlon*



Sarah Shoffner - May 28, 2016 at 08:04 PM

AF

“ May the love and peace of God surround you and bring you comfort during this sorrowful time. You are in my thoughts and prayers. God Bless you. ~ann felton

Ann Felton - May 28, 2016 at 04:20 PM

AF

“ May the love and peace of God surround you and bring you comfort during this sorrowful time. You are in my thoughts and prayers. God Bless you. ~ann felton

Ann Felton - May 28, 2016 at 04:19 PM

SS

“ I am so sorry for your loss. You are in my thoughts and prayers.



shari slagel - May 28, 2016 at 03:47 PM

KK

“ My thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time.



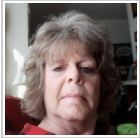
Karen Krogman Kaas - May 28, 2016 at 02:45 PM

KK

“ So sorry for you loss. May you find peace and comfort during this difficult time.



Kim Kopitski - May 28, 2016 at 01:25 PM



“ Christine Bruder Sanders lit a candle in memory of Karen Ridlon



Christine Bruder Sanders - May 28, 2016 at 08:44 AM

YH

“ Yvonne Holmquist lit a candle in memory of Karen Ridlon



Yvonne Holmquist - May 28, 2016 at 01:26 AM

TV

“ Tami Vossler lit a candle in memory of Karen Ridlon



tami vossler - May 27, 2016 at 11:01 PM



Karen you are loved always and forever

Tami Knolls Vossler - May 30, 2016 at 12:18 PM

CB

To the family... Always blessings, never losses..

Cynthia Barthel - June 03, 2016 at 01:21 AM

TE

I am so sorry for Ethan and Jon. Karen lost her battle with depression and her boys are the survivors. God Bless and keep her sons and grandson safe. Karen loved her boys very much. Unfortunately, she lost the fight from depression and God keep her boys safe. Ignoring and tiptoeing around the subject is just a huge mistake. Her life should serve to save others from her illness. There is no shame in depression, only in covering it up.

I cared deeply for Karen and I wish none of this happened, for her family's sake.

Terri - June 04, 2016 at 05:09 PM

CA

Karen was my special friend. She took care of my mom in hospice. We really loved her as our own. She had a special place in my heart. When I seen this in the Marshall paper this morning. My heart goes out to Ethan, John and the family. We may never know When and how to say good=bye but I wish I would have known about this sooner. I just talked to her a month ago. Bless her BIG heart and soul. Sending John and Ethan all my Love. Your Mom was a Angel from above. I wish you peace and comfort. Fly high my sista Dear . You always have a place in my heart . Love you so much. Cheryl Anderson

Cheryl Anderson - June 07, 2016 at 07:23 AM