



Karen F. Robinson

December 10, 2020

Karen Robinson, Nurse Practitioner and diehard Ohio State football fan, died unexpectedly on December 10, 2020 at her home in Elmer, NJ.

Karen was a beloved and kind friend to many. Preceded in death by her father, John Robinson, Karen is survived by her mother, Catherine "Kitty" Robinson, 6 younger siblings: Kevin Robinson, Keith Robinson (Allison), Kathleen Stein (Jack), Kimberly Dean (Martin), Kyle Robinson (Rebecca) and Kelly Robinson (Kelli) and 17 nieces and nephews. As the eldest, Karen spent her teen years caring for her younger brothers and sisters, honing her gifts in caring for babies and children of all ages. Karen was a devoted aunt; her nieces and nephews suffer a great loss. Her siblings were blessed to have a "baby expert" on hand as they transitioned to the role of parents.

Karen was a highly trained and passionate nurse practitioner who never stopped working to improve her capacity to serve children and families. She attained numerous specializations in neonatal and psychiatric care and worked for years to improve her Spanish so she could support all her patients fully. Karen loved teaching both in the classroom and supervising residents in the clinic and hospital.

Karen was a woman of deep faith and took her passion for medical service on numerous medical missions in South America and India. She met Mother

Theresa and outshined all her siblings in the eyes of her devout Irish grandmother when she had the opportunity to meet Pope John Paul. Karen retained lifelong relationships formed in her Catholic community in Akron Ohio where she completed her nursing degree.

Dr. Salah, Pediatrician and friend shared his reflection:

"I had the honor of employing Karen for nine short years, and I was inspired by her passion and capacity for loving and supporting the people around her. She was extremely patient, and went out of her way to save lives regardless of how tired she was. I watched her counsel patients through difficult times and often overextend herself to be in service of people in her care."

"Many memories of her kindness and passion remain a testament to her exceptional personality. Just this past Thanksgiving, Karen sacrificed her holiday to cover for me so that I could go to Chicago to meet my first grandchild. She was tired and still fighting with her illness, but insisted on helping me anyway."

"Another moment that I will never forget came when my only daughter was getting married. I needed her to cover the hospital for me, and instead of sitting the wedding out, she brought her scrubs with her in a bag in case she had to leave. She told me that she wanted to help me, but was unwilling to miss my daughter getting married."

"She was constantly cheerful and positive, even in the worst of times. No matter how difficult things became, she held on to her beliefs, ethics, and morals every single day of her life. She will be deeply missed by all whose lives she touched."

Dr. Salah has established a fund in Karen's name at the Temple Lung Center. Karen was in the process of seeking a lifesaving transplant. She was looking

forward with hope to watching her beloved nieces and nephews grow up and continuing to care for those in need in her community.

The Karen Robinson Lung Transplant Fund has been set up at Temple University Hospital. Anyone who would like to make a donation in her name can do so by visiting www.giving.temple.edu/supportTUH and typing 'The Karen Robinson Lung Transplant Fund' in the designations section. You may also make a check out to Temple Institutional Advancement and note that the donation is for The Karen Robinson Lung Transplant Fund, and mail it to P.O. Box 827651, Philadelphia PA 19182-7651.

A funeral mass will be held on June 4, 2021 at 1:30 PM at St. Jerome Catholic Church, 10895 Hamlin Blvd., Largo, FL 33774. An additional memorial will be held this summer to celebrate with her Bread of Life Community.

Previous Events

Mass

JUN 4. 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM (ET)

St. Jerome Catholic Church
10895 Hamlin Blvd.
Largo, FL 33774

Tribute Wall

CG

“ I first met Karen on October 9th, 2013, when she came into my maternity room after having my daughter. I would have my family doctor care for my daughter for pediatric care. After I met Karen, I saw how well she handled my daughter and answered every single question I had. I told your IT! WE ARE COMING TO YOUR OFFICE. I WANT YOU TO CARE FOR MY DAUGHTER AS SHE GROWS INTO AN ADULT. And that is how I got to know Elmer Pediatric with Dr. Salah! Karen was always so hands-on with my daughter, always took her time. And she will truly be missed, and is still missed 4 years later. May you rest in peace, Karen, and thank you for everything you did for my daughter!

Cassie Griffith - May 24, 2025 at 05:31 PM

MA

“ It's August 3, 2024, and I still miss you Robinson. We met in 1966 and shared some crazy times until you had to move to Canton. Still expect to get a phone call from you, I guess that will never go away. I'll see ya soon. xoxoxo Marcia

Marcia - August 04, 2024 at 02:46 AM

WN

“ I knew Karen from the Bread of Life Community. I just want to say ditto to everything Lori Gutbrod said in her comments. It was beautiful. Karen wasn't afraid to be herself. She was fun, hard-working at her job, smart and loved babies. Karen was present when we had our first baby. My husband, Fred was relieved to have Karen there to ask questions. She would never miss a chance to be around babies. My husband remembers her also and said she was always happy and has a contagious laugh. She had a big heart and loved all people and accepted them wherever they were at.

Winnie Neugebauer

Winnie NEUGEBAUER - January 18, 2021 at 08:33 PM

SE

“ THIS IS SO VERY SAD TO HEAR...Karen was always so kind. I met her at Dodges Market in Elmer. She loved coming in for soup. prayers for her family.

Scott Louis Edmonds - December 31, 2020 at 12:29 PM

LM

“ Miss Karen❤️ I have such dear memories of my time at First Step Pediatrics. When she came to work there we all took such a liking to this cheerful, wonderful woman. I was a medical assistant finishing my nursing degree when she started and she always took the time to help with questions I may have had or opportunities for teaching moments through the day (which I thoroughly enjoyed!) I have such great memories that I hold dear in my heart from her stories of her time as a NICU nurse and throughout her journey up the Nursing profession ladder. She was a true inspiration to me! I loved working with this compassionate, caring woman who was loved by us all and I have taken these fond memories of working with Miss Karen through my journey as a Nurse. I was so sorry to hear that she is no longer here on Earth, but Heaven just got one of the best. Lindsey Marconi

Lindsey Marconi - December 29, 2020 at 11:25 PM

CL

“ On April 4th 1989, my son, E.J. was born at 26 weeks. He was transferred immediately to Akron Children's Hospital. I met a nurse there that was a true angel. Karen took care of my son for weeks. Whenever she was working E.J. was her patient in the NICU. She became more than a nurse, she became my friend. She would always boost my spirits when my son's life was literally like a rollercoaster. I will always be so thankful that the Lord allowed our paths to cross when I needed her most. Bless you Karen! Thank you to the Robinson family for sharing this beautiful lady in our lives, she has helped and loved so many! God Bless

Cindy Garland Lemmeyer

Cindy Garland Lemmeyer - December 24, 2020 at 12:30 PM

LG

“ My deepest sympathies to Karen's mom, siblings, and dear ones. Karen was such a treasure! I knew her through the Bread of Life Community. One of my first opportunities to get to know her better was when we traveled to Columbus together for our State Boards for nursing. Everyone there was really stressed and trying to study. Karen and I hit the town! She took me to German Village (Firehouse restaurant), we swam in the hotel pool, later on went bowling! haha! She was so much fun and we both passed our boards too! We lived together several times in those days with other single ladies in the community. She took care of Rose Feiler, who was a dear sister in Christ with Cerebral Palsy and was quadriplegic and also difficult to understand speech wise. Karen had a way with Rose and made her laugh like no other! Karen was the kind of person you wanted around during an emergency as she was always very calm and chill. I was privileged to travel to FL with her when her dad tragically died in the car accident. It was so nice to meet her family, make lemon meringue pie from their fresh lemons and also beat Kevin at euchre. We worked together for years as nurses and everyone always loved her. Karen gave me and another friend childbirth ed classes and she could rock any fussy baby to sleep within minutes! My first daughter was born a premie and Karen came to my hospital with her NICU team. She held my hand during the C-section and then took my baby girl to Children's NICU where she cared for her so lovingly and helped me deal with such a trying time as a new mom. Sadly, we lost touch after she moved from Akron, but I will always treasure these and many other happy memories. Her obituary brought me to tears and it is clear that she went on to pour out her life for Jesus and to serve others. Her life was way too short...but she held nothing back and gave her all. May she rest in the arms of Jesus and I think she will be laughing and getting those around her to laugh as well!

Lori (Monsour) Gutbrod - December 17, 2020 at 02:55 PM

MN

I'm so thankful to read this! It looks like she picked up in Dallas where she left off with you in Akron! My family was so blessed to have Karen as a friend. She helped me and my husband with a birth class and with our newborns. She was a special lady and we loved her smiles. Her soda bread and St Pattys day were always special! I met her on medical missions in Mexico and she had such deep faith and a joyful attitude toward everyone.

I feel like a light Karen brought to the world has faded with her passing. May she rest in the peace of Christ.

Mary Norton - March 28, 2021 at 01:13 PM

PO

“ Karen was the person to be with if you wanted to experience life in its fullest. No one made me laugh so much. Karen led with care and by example. When I had an eye injury as a young adult, she stayed with me and read me the "Hobbit". Karen, you left a void in this world... I love you always and miss you dearly.

Peggy Oliver - December 17, 2020 at 10:15 AM

RS

“ I am saddened to hear! Karen was a lovely coworker and friend. She helped me tremendously while I was in school, giving encouragement to be a great nurse practitioner like her. She was wonderful with the little ones. Condolences to her family. Sincerely, Regina Soderberg

Regina Soderberg - December 16, 2020 at 11:23 PM

LB

So very sad to hear that miss Karen passed. She undoubtedly heard "Well done thy good and faithful servant."

Lori B - January 08, 2021 at 06:33 PM

DF

“ Karen and I worked together at Akron Children’s Hospital. She also volunteered at our Asthma Summer Camp for many years. She was a very caring nurse and friend.

Dianne Fihe - December 16, 2020 at 10:58 PM

LS

“ Where to begin...
We came to know Karen through Elmer Pediatrics; She was my children's Nurse practitioner and became a friend to all of us. Karen's AMAZING, warm, kind, compassionate, knowledgeable, patient ways made her someone you wanted to be around. She worked wonders for both of my daughters through her expertise in dealing with anxiety and for both of my sons in her general practice. She made time to listen to my concerns and could always be counted on for her honesty and wisdom. Albert Einstein said, “Only a life lived for others is a life worthwhile”, Karen was worth her weight in gold. We will miss her <3



With our deepest condolences,
The Spinelli Family

Laura Spinelli - December 16, 2020 at 12:00 PM

AL

I personally met Karen seventeen years ago, when my Aunty Beatrice introduced me to her, when I arrived in the United States, The very first time I met her was when my Aunty drove me to her house in Irving, Texas to pick up my immigration documents from her, my immigration documents went through her, because she gave me affidavit of support to immigrate into the U.S, she has always been part of my immigration story, she was a deep religious woman, her kindness and sense of love will be missed, may her soul rest peacefully with our creator.

Abraham Lamptey - December 16, 2020 at 11:12 PM

FB

“ Ms. Karen,
You are going to be missed. The talks we used to have, the crazy socks, the holidays. Our First Step Family just won't be the same with out you. You were like a mom and grandmom to most of us here as well as the patients. May you rest in heaven, until we meet again!
Love always,
Fawn and Family

Fawn Banks - December 16, 2020 at 10:32 AM

LC

“ Karen was a regular customer of mine, she always had a kind word and a smile. Many prayers to her family.

Lisa Coulter - December 15, 2020 at 04:54 PM

MB

“ Momma Karen ❤️❤️
You will be truly be missed💔💔💔
May you Rest In Peace, until we meet again love ya always ❤️
Marcy Brown and family

marcy brown - December 15, 2020 at 07:59 AM

SH

Karen was a beautiful person inside and out and u will be truly missed by me and especially my kids. Im glad I had the honor of knowing such a beautiful person like u. 💔

Shontae - December 16, 2020 at 08:43 AM

GR

I worked with Karen in nursery and she was awesome ❤️😞

Gale Nolte RN - December 16, 2020 at 11:18 PM

PF

Worked with Karen at Akron Children's. Rest in peace my Irish friend. We had a great time at the Chieftains concert in Cleveland.

"May the road rise to meet you. May the wind be always at your back. May the sun shine warm upon your face. The rains fall soft upon your fields. And until we meet again, May God hold you in the hollow of his hand." Patty Flanagan

Patty Flanagan - December 24, 2020 at 09:13 AM