



Karen Olson

November 26, 1956 - July 7, 2017

Karen Olson, age 60 of Carroll, died Friday, July 7, 2017 at St. Anthony Regional Hospital in Carroll.

A Celebration of Karen's Life will be held at the Sharp Funeral Home in Carroll on Saturday, September 30, 2017, from 2-4p.m. with a sharing of memories at 4 p.m.

Funeral arrangements are under the direction of the Sharp Funeral Home in Carroll and online condolences may be left for Karen's family at www.sharpfuneral.com. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be sent to The Howard Center, 1319 Early St. Sac City, Iowa, 50583.

Karen was born on November 26, 1956 at Lady of Lourdes Hospital in Camden, New Jersey the daughter of David and Pauline (Clark) Marshall. She graduated from Triton Regional High School in Runnemede, New Jersey in 1975. She continued on to Camden County Vocational School for Dental Technician in 1976 and later continued her schooling in X-Ray Tech in 1978. During that time she found her passion in working with special needs children and continued that passion until the time of her death. In 2001, she became the Contract Director at the Howard Center in Sac City, Iowa.

Karen met her husband Tim in 1983 and they were married on June 29, 1985.

Their son Jared was born 3 years later and the family moved to Iowa in 1991. She enjoyed caring for her family, fishing, camping, and riding on the back of her husband's Harley. Karen also enjoyed wine tasting, chocolate, crossword puzzles, and visiting with family and friends. Karen was an avid Iowa Hawkeye and Penn State fan. Her true passion was caring for individuals with special needs.

Karen is survived by her loving and devoted husband Tim Olson of Carroll; her son Jared Olson of Carroll; her sister, Susan (Thurman) Hogan and their children, Kelsey and Marshall; her brother, Mark (Julie) Marshall and their children, David (Kristin) and Kirie; her mother-in-law, Jan Olson; and her loving friends: Janelle, Roxie, and Tacey.

Karen was preceded in death by her parents: David and Pauline Marshall; her brother, Karl Marshall; and her grandparents: George and Ivy Clark and Colin and Doris Marshall.

Tribute Wall

DB

“ Our thoughts and prayers go out Karen and her family. Karen was such a great lady to work with and just to be around. God bless you

Doug Bender - July 20, 2017 at 10:51 PM



“ The first time I met Karen she impressed me by her energy and positive personality. She was welcoming and made you feel accepted. Over the years Karen has been an inspiration to me. Her life was not simple but she had a positive outlook. She had so much love to give her two boys, Tim and Jared. She also loved her family and seemed very close to her siblings. I felt closer to Karen than any other sister in law I have had. We got along well! I enjoyed my visits to her home because we would have deep conversations and she felt safe to share them with me. I would always admire her decorations because she seemed to always have her place decked out. She loved it! Karen was a strong and determined woman and she will always have a place in my heart!!!

---Oh death where is your sting? Where is your victory?

I love you Karen! You will be missed!!!!



Kristy Siple - July 12, 2017 at 11:13 PM

VO

“ Karen had a heart of GOLD, she was always cheerful. I loved calling and talking with her or just meeting her somewhere, her voice was ALWAYS full of cheer. You couldn't help but smile at her when she talked because her voice was so full of joy and energy. Karen you will be dearly missed by this family. I couldn't thank her enough for what she did for our son Mike, who has Williams Syndrome. Her smile always made me smile, we need more people like Karen in this world. My heart goes out to Tim and Jared for their loss, just know Karen touched the hearts of many. We are so thankful we had the opportunity for Karen to touch ours.

Vicki O'Tool - July 10, 2017 at 10:43 AM

 Paul
Greteman

“ I am so very sorry to read this today. You are in my prayers

Paul Greteman - July 10, 2017 at 09:16 AM

TF

“ Tim & Jared, my heart and prayers go out to you. Everyone who got the opportunity to be around Karen was blessed with her presence. She had such a zest for life and I loved her positive attitude. Over the many years I have worked with Karen, I saw someone who was dedicated to her calling for helping others. She would reach out to anyone who needed her and advocated for anyone who needed the extra help. She always went above the norm to provide that support. She is greatly missed! Tresa Feldmann

Tresa Feldmann - July 10, 2017 at 09:01 AM

PG

“ I worked with Karen for many years at HCI. She was such a wonderful resource to our staff as well as the individuals and families that she worked with and supported. I always admired her upbeat personality! Sending prayers to Tim, Jarod and Karen's family at this difficult time.

Pam Gehrig - July 09, 2017 at 09:03 PM

TF

“ Sue, I'm so, so sorry for the loss of your sister. May God be with all of you at this heartaching time. I hope all of your good memories will help all of you to deal with this pain.

Toni (Marshall) Fucellaro - July 09, 2017 at 07:27 PM

SL

“ My deepest sympathies to your family. Karen and I were high school friends who always laughed at each other and somehow seemed to get in trouble. We lost touch over the years but will always have fond memories of her contagious laugh and smile ! RIP my friend

Sue Lewis - July 09, 2017 at 06:09 PM



“ Karen was a very special lady in my life. I loved her from the 1st time she came to Florida to see Tim. I tried many times to steal her away from Tim; but when two people are made to be together, you can't pull them apart. I was with them on their wedding day and have remained a close friend for their 32 years together. Even with many miles between us, we always stayed in touch. My mom and dad adopted Karen when they met her for the 1st time at their wedding. Tim had been adopted years earlier. I was so glad that I got to make the drive and spend a couple days with Karen earlier this week. She will be forever in my memories. She will always be remember as a good friend and known by my family as Karen "Crumpler" Olsen. Or as my son called her Aunt Karen. George Lamond Crumpler

George Crumpler - July 08, 2017 at 04:00 PM

RC

“ It is a very sad day when you went home, but there is no more pain. Karen was an adopted Daughter, thanks to Tim, she was a very special person. I loved her so much. A very sweet caring person. I enjoyed spending a week with her and Tim here in these N.C. mountains. Tim and Jared and all the family, special Prayers during this time.. Love Ruby Crumpler

Ruby Crumpler - July 08, 2017 at 03:12 PM

PL

“ Karen was a wonderful friend and co worker, we are all better because she was in our lives. Her passion for helping people was great, she not only talked the talk but she walked the walk! The Howard Center was fortunate that she came to work for us she reached so many families and was an inspiration to everyone. She will be missed. God's healing grace please be with Tim and Jared. Pat Laursen, Executive Director, Howard Center Inc.

Pat Laursen - July 08, 2017 at 01:41 PM