



Karen Marie Wosczyzna

May 21, 1952 - January 23, 2008

◆ Wosczyzna, Karen Marie age 55 of Ypsilanti, January 23, 2008. Beloved daughter of the late Casimir and Blanche Wosczyzna (of Posen, MI). Loving sister of Lorraine (John) Long of Northville, Michigan. Dear aunt of Jennifer (Kevin) Johnson and Jackie (Trevor Frick) Long of Denver, Colorado. Proud great aunt of Madeline Grace Johnson and Rylan Elizabeth Johnson. Family and friends will gather on Sunday January 27, 2008 from 3:30 - 7 PM, with a memorial celebration of life service at 4:00 PM at the Northville Senior Community Center, 303 West Main Street (just west of Center Street) Northville, Michigan 48168. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Zimmer Foundation, P.O. Box 130944, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48113 (734) 663-8000, or to the U of M Cancer Center Development Office, 301 East Liberty, Suite 130, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104 (734) 998-6893. To share memories with Karen's family, please click on the Online Condolences link on this page. ◆◆

Tribute Wall



“ *Karen Marie Wosczyzna*

December 07, 2023 at 05:11 AM



“ *Dear Lorraine, John & family
I was so sorry to hear of Karen's death. I know you will miss her terribly. I pray that you find peace in knowing she is now in a better place.
I am so thankful that I had a chance to visit with the two of you awhile back.
God Bless and keep in touch*

Aggie & Harry Jakubiak

Aggie Jakubiak - December 12, 2014 at 10:27 AM



“ *Thank you for sharing Karen with University Health Service. She was a blessing to us in so many ways and will remain in our hearts.
Dianne Magier*

Dianne Magier - December 12, 2014 at 10:27 AM

DZ

“ Dear Lori and family,
While no words of mine can ease your loss, I want you to know that I am grieving with you.
Karen was a very dear and special colleague. Her strength and courage will always be an inspiration to me. Karen was not only an outstanding nurse, she was an extraordinary mentor. I had the great pleasure of sharing space with Karen as our offices were right next to each other. I benefitted daily by being able to observe and learn from how Karen interacted with patients and staff. She was a wealth of knowledge and she was generous in how she shared it. As a new nurse to the clinic, Karen was warm and welcoming. She took time to understand me and the strengths I brought to the clinic. She also recognized my limitations. As a teacher, Karen seemed to know when to push me to figure something out for myself and when I needed information the easy way. Karen could be tough, but there was never any doubt that she had my best interests at heart. Karen's strong character, smart wit and intelligence were so valuable to the clinic. I'll never forget this beautiful, strong woman, my colleague and friend. She was the nurse in the office next door who was sometimes a little crusty on the outside and always all mush on the inside.

With deepest sympathy,
Donna Zak

Donna Zak - December 12, 2014 at 10:27 AM

DB

“ Jennifer and family,
My thoughts are with you today. I know you were a tremendous help to your aunt during difficult times. I'm sure you have many fond memories of happy times with her throughout her lifetime.
Deanna Beyer

Deanna Beyer - December 12, 2014 at 10:27 AM

VM

“ My heart goes out to the family. Karen you were a true fighter in every sense, but most of all you had the great heart of a friend, you will be missed dearly.

Venessa Martin - December 12, 2014 at 10:27 AM

MW

“ My thoughts and prayers are with the family of Karen Wosczyzna at this parting time. I met Karen about 20 years ago when I hired into Briarwood Family Medicine. She taught me what I needed to know to function in the Ambulatory Care setting, made a trip to the Traverse City with my family, and became a strong nursing friend. We shared an interest in cats, although I could never match her passion, I would consult her for ideas about managing the cats in my rural neighborhood. I would save expired IV solutions, that Karen would use as she nursed cats back to life. Life is not always fair, and this doesn't seem fair. We will always remember her passion for life, what she taught us, and hopefully continue to carry her torch. My prayers are with your family.

Mary Sue Webb - December 12, 2014 at 10:27 AM

KM

“ My thoughts and prayers to you Lorraine, John, and family, during this most difficult time. I'm a classmate of Karen's (class of 1970) and remember her dearly. It sounds like Karen was a very special Sister, Aunt, and friend. May all your memories of her inspire you on a daily basis. "Put everything in God's hand and eventually you will see God's hand in everything." Take Care.

Kathy Momrik - December 12, 2014 at 10:27 AM

BR

“ Lorraine, We were saddened to hear of the death of your sister, Karen. Please know you are in our prayers. May She Rest In Peace!!! Betty Romel & Family --Posen, Mich.

Betty Romel - December 12, 2014 at 10:27 AM

TP

“ In the summer of 1972 I was a student pilot flying out of Alpena's Phelps Collins Airport. My solo training flights often took me north to the Posen area for familial reasons and also for the beauty of the area. Many times I would fly low over "Uncle Cash's " farm looking for the buddas my mother Rose, Karen's Aunt spoke about and over Lake Augusta. One time Karen came out of the house waving frantically . I remember her standing and jumping near the hand waqter pump on the north side of the house.I made several low passes, probably well below the FAA requirement of 500 ft or more from people and buildings.

Karen was very animated. I was convinced that she thought it was cool to see a Cessna 150 so low she could see my face.

I later learned that Uncle Cash said what I did was bad for the cows. Karen likely shared her dad's sentiment.

On another note,about two years ago Karen I were discussing my working in Ann Arbor and driving from Kalamzoo weekly.She gently admonished me for working too hard and not enjoying life. She was right. I have periodically thought of that conversation and continue to try enjoying life's every waking hour. We all should.

Karen will be missed.

Ted

Ted P. Pokorski - December 12, 2014 at 10:27 AM

JD

“ Dear Lorraine & John,
We are so sorry to hear about Karen. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family at this most difficult time.
Take care.
Jim & Janet Dietlin

Jim & Janet Dietlin - December 12, 2014 at 10:27 AM

KD

“ Karen was a wonderful nurse and a wonderful person. She and I bonded immediately when she came to work at the allergy clinic, and over the years she and I have shared many a family story, photos, and the ups and downs of our lives. She was a person who touched many lives in a very positive way, and she is already greatly missed. My sincere condolences to her family and many friends...

Karen Downing - December 12, 2014 at 10:27 AM

DP

“ Lorraine and John, please accept our heartfelt condolences. When I was "up north" these last couple years, I felt the bond between the three of you, and it was and is strong. May your memories of a loving, caring, unselfish, sister help you keep your chin up. The images Billie Rohl's memories conjure up in my mind are the exact image I have of Karen from back on farm. She was always caring and loving and above all, respectful of others feelings and needs.
Rest assured the Lord is with you during this time, and we pray that he gives you both strength. God Bless!

Dan & Sherry Pokorski - December 12, 2014 at 10:27 AM



“ *The first Christmas I knew her she told me she had something for me: it was my own Cat-a-Day tear off calendar! I looked forward to it every year. I sadly bought my own this year but Karen, know this: I have thought and will think of you every day I tear a page off that calendar--and I will buy that calendar every year and tear off every page with a smile as a reminder of you. I am a better person for having known you.*

My most sincere condolences to her family and other friends, of whom I am proud to say I am one.

December 12, 2014 at 10:27 AM



“ *No one could have tried harder to beat her illness. She researched and educated herself even more once she was diagnosed, followed her own treatment in great detail, did what the drs said--mostly (smile)--and worked when she felt well enough. Sometimes she could barely drag herself in to the office, but did so saying it helped her focus on something besides her illness. She tried traditional and alternative treatments and some would work for a while. No one can say she didn't try her hardest to stay with her family, friends, and of course, her cats--no one has ever tried harder. If she ever wondered, "Why me?" (and surely she must have!) she never voiced it to me.*

December 12, 2014 at 10:27 AM



“ We'd talk about her sisters and their families, trips to Florida and elsewhere, her nieces, etc. I always checked out the latest baby pictures in her office, as she was also a proud great-aunt. And of course any health questions I had, I could ask her--and when she was diagnosed several years back, we would talk about the cancer and her different treatments and check the status of her CA-125.

But the talk always came back around to cats. Karen and I "got" each other about our pets. I could converse with her--and she with me--at length about a cat issue and never feel we were boring each other!

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“ We'd commiserate over each other's cat losses, and laugh and shake our heads over our cats' feline antics. Karen cat-sat for me fairly often--as recently as last October, in fact. There's even a set of my apartment keys at her house "in case of emergency." She said she liked coming to my place to play with someone else's furry kids on occasion, and eventually with that big heart and infinite cat-patience of hers, won over the affection of even my shyest cats.

She was a staunch champion of strays, feeding feral cats and spending her own time and money and huge amounts of effort--until she became so ill she just couldn't do it any more--taking in, finding a home for (often, her own!) or feeding any strays lucky enough to come her way. Karen had the courage of her convictions and instead of just saying, oh, gee, that's too bad when she'd see a stray, went and did something about it.

December 12, 2014 at 10:27 AM

BR

“ I don't know how to begin to express my dismay and sense of loss that my dear, good, brave and great-hearted friend Karen is no longer with us. I met Karen a number of years back as a patient at the UHS Allergy Clinic.

We bonded the first time I sat in her office as her patient and I commented on her "Cat-a-Day" calendar, being a "cat woman" myself. We became friends over syringes and cat stories, going out to eat or to a movie, but always sharing our love of our respective cats. Or, for that matter, any cats.

Billie Rohl - December 12, 2014 at 10:27 AM

NH

“ Karen's friendship has meant a lot to me. How I admire her fierce resolution to fight on in spite of the hardship. I will miss her.

Nancy Helmick - December 12, 2014 at 10:27 AM

LD

“ I always enjoyed talking with Karen about her cats. She had big faith and very strong will. I will miss her. Lady DI/Gyn Clinic

Lady DI - December 12, 2014 at 10:27 AM

CL

“ To the family: I am a former co-worker of Karen's from UHS and it broke my heart to hear that Karen had passed away. I never had the opportunity to meet any of you personally, but I heard alot about you over the years. I recently decided to return to school to puruse a degree in nursing and Karen was one of the people who encouraged me and gave me extremely valuable advice. I will always remember Karen for that and can only hope I can be as great a nurse as she.

May your memories of her keep you doing this time.

*Sincerely,
Crystal Lucas*

Crystal Lucas - December 12, 2014 at 10:27 AM

AA

“ *Lori and family,
Peace to you all.*

Love, Anne

Anne Armstrong - December 12, 2014 at 10:27 AM

AD

“ *Sorry to hear about your loss Lorraine and John. Tried to get a hold of you this summer but couldn't find you. I'm sure you will miss her a lot. Please write back.*

Aunt Delphine - December 12, 2014 at 10:27 AM

CB

“ My heart breaks for the loss your family is experiencing. Karen you were a tremendous woman, nurse ,and friend. I met you years ago as a patient and then ultimatley as fate would have it.. I was priviledged to be your manager at the Briarwood Health Center. After our careers took us in different directions we still had those drive by moments in hallways and out in the community. You never ceased to amaze me with your strength and positive attitude even when your illness was taking it's toll. I will so miss you and I pray that God will give me half of the fortitude in life that you had.

Cyndi

Cyndi Bower - December 12, 2014 at 10:27 AM