



## Karen K. McQuillan

March 19, 1944 - February 8, 2016

Karen K. McQuillan, 71, of Omaha, formerly of Ogallala, died Monday, February 8, 2016 at CHI Lakeside Hospital in Omaha, with her family at her side.

Mass of Christian Burial will be at 10:30 am Saturday, February 13th at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Greeley, Nebraska. Burial will be in Sacred Heart Catholic Cemetery. Visitation will be from 5-7 pm Thursday at St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church in Omaha, with a 7 pm Vigil Service. Visitation will continue from 5-7 pm Friday at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Greeley, with a 7 pm Vigil Service.

Memorials are suggested to St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church Building Fund, Sacred Heart Catholic Church, St. Joseph Villa - Nursing and Rehab of Omaha or St. Luke's School of Ogallala.

O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral Home of Kearney is serving the family. Condolences may be shared online at [www.osrfh.com](http://www.osrfh.com).

Karen Kay McQuillan was born on March 19, 1944 in Temple, Texas to Donald and Veronica (Vandewalle) Kennedy. The family lived in Texas and Kentucky while her father served in the United States Army. Following his discharge they returned to Nebraska and made their home on a farm east of Greeley.

Karen received her education at Sacred Heart Catholic School, graduating with the class of 1962. Following high school she moved to Omaha where she worked for Creighton University Medical Library for four years.

She was united in marriage to James M. McQuillan on August 31, 1963 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Greeley. Jim and Karen lived in Omaha where she continued to work at Creighton University while he completed his law degree. On July 1, 1966 they moved to Ogallala where they would reside for 47 years, until moving to Omaha in September of 2013. Karen was a loving and devoted wife, mother and grandmother who always looked forward to spending time with her family, especially her grandchildren and great grandchildren. She also loved flowers and enjoyed putting together bouquets for special occasions.

Throughout her life, faith remained very important to Karen. She was a member of St. Luke's Catholic Church in Ogallala where she was active in the Altar Society and St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church in Omaha. She was also a member of the Mrs. Jaycees in Ogallala.

Survivors of the immediate family include her loving husband of 52 years, James M. McQuillan of Omaha; her children, Michelle M. (Brad) Kreifels of Nebraska City, Michael J. (Shelly) McQuillan of Ogallala, Daniel P. (Jami) McQuillan of Omaha, Deborah A. McQuillan of Omaha, James V. (Christi) McQuillan of Omaha and Shannon M. (Brad) Cooper of Omaha; six grandsons, Ryan D. (Cara) McQuillan, Sgt. James P. McQuillan, Sean Q. McQuillan, Drew B. Cooper, Mark J. Cooper, Conner J. Cooper; 12 granddaughters, McKenzie S. McQuillan, Jessica L. (Jeremy) Franson, Catherine R. McQuillan, Kelsey K. Kreifels, Amanda M. McQuillan, Elizabeth A. McQuillan, Haley M. Kreifels, Megan A. McQuillan, Madeline G. McQuillan, Karley M. Kreifels, Jacey E. Kreifels and Makayla M. Cooper; two great grandchildren, Emma McQuillan and Dominic Staples; three sisters, Dianne

Jones of Cozad, Elaine (Dick) Caster of Lincoln and Mary (Loren) Rogers of Pierce; a brother, Terry (Kate) Kennedy of Greeley; five sisters-in-law, Mary (Louis) Bauer of Greeley, Janet (Hank) Atwater of Omaha, Grace (Dan) Callahan of Greeley, Maureen McGuire (Jeff Chase) of Addison, TX and Mickey (Jerry) Smyth of Greeley.

She is also survived by several nieces, nephews and friends, including numerous friends she developed through her travels with Jim in association with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

Karen was preceded in death by her parents; two infant sons, Sean David McQuillan and Mark Anthony McQuillan; her mother-in-law and father-in-law, Michael J. and Janet A. McQuillan; a brother-in-law, Casey Jones; and a sister-in-law, Patricia M. McQuillan.

# Cemetery Details

## Sacred Heart Catholic Cemetery

Greeley, NE 68842

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB 11. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church  
Omaha, NE

## Vigil / Prayer Service

FEB 11. 7:00 PM (CT)

St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church  
Omaha, NE

## Visitation

FEB 12. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Sacred Heart Catholic Church  
Greeley, NE

## **Vigil / Prayer Service**

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FEB **12**. 7:00 PM (CT)

Sacred Heart Catholic Church  
Greeley, NE

## **Mass of Christian Burial**

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FEB **13**. 10:30 AM (CT)

Sacred Heart Catholic Church  
Greeley, NE

# Tribute Wall



“ *Karen K. McQuillan*

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January 28, 2023 at 08:01 AM



“ *Dear Jim and family,*

*Our thoughts and condolences with you.*

*Paul & Lynn Knight*

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**Paul Knight** - March 29, 2016 at 04:37 PM



“ *Dear Jim,*

*Please accept our heartfelt condolences at this very sad and difficult time in your life. Karen was a most gracious lady in every way and her passing will be missed terribly by all who knew her. You are in our prayers for Peace,*

*Sincerely,*

*Ray and Amie Ross*

*Colorado Springs, CO*

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**Dr. Raymond F. Ross** - February 22, 2016 at 10:39 AM

LA

“ Karen was one sweet lady.. AND, HEAVY on the word SWEET.. I know her whole family will miss her terribly, especially her loving husband, Jim..

You are all in our thoughts and prayers.. But she is at peace with our loving Lord and Savior ..

Sincerely,

Loren and Jacque Anthony

El Dorado, Kansas

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**Loren & Jacque Anthony** - February 17, 2016 at 10:44 AM

NM

“ Dear Jim and families, I am so sorry for your great loss and send you my deepest sympathy at this very sad and difficult time. Karen was a grand lady and will be missed my many. Please know that I care and extend my heartfelt sympathy to you and your family during this time of grief.

Sincerely,

Nancy (Mamot) Meier G.I.

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**Nancy (Mamot) Meier** - February 13, 2016 at 01:47 PM

DE

“ To Jim and family, I was saddened to have word of the passing of Karen. My thoughts returned to the years that I have known her through the Elks and all the committees we were on together as our husbands labored for The Order. I remember all the trips, conventions - local, state and national - which just led to more and more love and admiration I had for her.. May God hold you all in the comfort of His arms. Know that you have my thoughts and prayers at this sad time. Love, Dolores Y.. Earnest

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**Dolores Y. Earnest** - February 12, 2016 at 09:04 PM

EB

“ *My prayers and condolences to Jim and family as they grieve the loss of my friend, Karen. We shared many fun memories when we would get together, with our babies, every morning at my house for coffee after the older kids went to school. We had some laughs and concerns when we would give each hair perms.*



*I truly loved this wonderful lady whose kindness and heart knew no bounds. Despite her own heartache, she could manage to make someone else feel better. Our God will welcome her home with a outstretched hand and a "well done good and faithful servant".*

*May God grant you all strength and comfort. May the fond memories of your beloved Karen bring a smile to your face and joy to your heart. May the peace of Christ be with you through this valley of sorrow.*

*Karen and Jim are Godparents to my youngest son Jody Hunt.  
In the name of Christ our Lord.*

*Eva (Hunt) Bock  
ebock@cox.net  
Hutchinson, KS. 67502*

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**Eva (Hunt) Bock** - February 12, 2016 at 04:35 PM

RS

“ *To the McQuillan Family.  
From Kearney, the Robert Hobbs and Douglas State families send our most sincere condolences.*

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**Robert Hobbs and Emily State** - February 12, 2016 at 09:47 AM

TF

“ Tom Callahan Family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Karen K. McQuillan.



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**Tom Callahan Family** - February 12, 2016 at 08:26 AM

SR

“ Karen was one Special Lady and was a very special friend to me. She called me many times after Fred passed away to see how I was doing and that showed what a caring and special person she was. I will miss her so much but I know she is not hurting and will be well taken care of now. I am so sorry I can't be there Saturday but I will be there in spirit with my thoughts and prayers for all of you. God Bless all of you. Shirley Ruff



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**Shirley Ruff** - February 11, 2016 at 09:15 PM

SD

“ Scott, Angie, and Michael Smith & Connie Ditto purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Karen K. McQuillan.



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**Scott, Angie, and Michael Smith & Connie Ditto** - February 11, 2016 at 07:09 PM

HI

“ *Holfaster's Equip. Inc., purchased the Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant for the family of Karen K. McQuillan.*



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**Holfaster's Equip. Inc.,** - February 11, 2016 at 01:16 PM

DM

“ *We want to wish all of your family the best and we are sending you our prayers. Karen was a special lady. We got to know Karen because we were next door neighbors to Brad and Michelle, but also through the Elks Lodge. Please know that we are thinking of you through this special time.*

*Dennis & Carol Marshall (and all the girls)  
Nebraska City*

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**Dennis & Carol Marshall** - February 11, 2016 at 12:08 PM

JS

“ *Our loved ones leave behind spaces in the world that can never be filled. But....they also leave behind love and light in each of us, sparks of hope and joy that live in our hearts and give strength to our souls. Keeping you all close in thought during this sad time and wishing you all peace in the memories of Karen.*

*Doug and Jacqui Schobert*

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**Jacqueline Schobert** - February 11, 2016 at 10:43 AM

FR

“ *Shocked and saddened to hear of Karen's passing. I loved her and she was a great friend. She will be missed by all. Fran McQuillan*

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**fran** - February 11, 2016 at 10:15 AM

TF

“ *The Ed Steenburg family purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Karen K. McQuillan.*



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**The Ed Steenburg family** - February 11, 2016 at 12:01 AM

SW

“ *Karen was a gem of a woman, and a wonderful cook. She proudly gave me her cucumber recipe about 6 years ago at The Elk's Lodge in Ogallala during Family Night. I have made it numerous times since then, and will think of her when I make it again in the future. I always enjoyed talking with Karen, as well as the rest of the family as well when I see them. My send my prayers are for the entire family.*

*Shawn and Rebecca Wrage*

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**Shawn Wrage** - February 10, 2016 at 09:25 PM

KB

“ To all of the McQuillan family,

*So sorry for your loss. I am thinking back long ago when I knew the Donald Kennedy*

*Family well. We celebrated many a holiday dinner together. I especially remember the*

*Thanksgiving dinners on those chilly gray November days. Great food and lots of*

*Cousins having fun times giggling and playing running games.*

*But now that Karen has left us, I remember her beautiful smile and how much she wa*

*admired by those who loved her. A really lovely person*

*You will be in my mind and prayers.*

*Kay Bohrer (Bud Kennedy's 3rd daughter)*

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**Kay Bohrer** - February 10, 2016 at 09:22 PM

TS

“ *Very sorry to hear of Karen's passing. She was a very giving and heartfelt lady.*

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**Tammy Schrack Smith** - February 10, 2016 at 09:12 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Karen K. McQuillan.*



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February 10, 2016 at 05:57 PM

T4

“ Troop 402 purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Karen K. McQuillan.



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**Troop 402** - February 10, 2016 at 05:14 PM

LH

“ Love The Haggard's purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Karen K. McQuillan.



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**Love The Haggard's** - February 10, 2016 at 01:11 PM

BJ

“ Buck, Kevin, Karl, Rodger, Pete, Aaron and Jane purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Karen K. McQuillan.



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**Buck, Kevin, Karl, Rodger, Pete, Aaron and Jane** - February 10, 2016 at 12:57 PM

KD

“ Ken, Francine and Alexandra Daemicke purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Karen K. McQuillan.



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**Ken, Francine and Alexandra Daemicke** - February 10, 2016 at 10:06 AM

TD

“ *The family of Dick and Grace Dorsey purchased the Rose Remembrance for the family of Karen K. McQuillan.*



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**The family of Dick and Grace Dorsey** - February 10, 2016 at 10:04 AM



“ *Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Karen K. McQuillan.*



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February 10, 2016 at 09:54 AM

LO

“ *Jim, Me and Stephanie want to let you know that you and your family are in our thoughts and prayers. We really enjoyed the visits and the time we shared when you two would come to Oklahoma. I think often about when we got to take you two to the Cowboy Hall of Fame. She was a great person and will be missed by all that she has touched.*

*Love*

*L.D. & Stephanie Ormand*

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**L.D. ORMAND** - February 10, 2016 at 09:42 AM

RW

“ I will never forget the kindness Karen always showed me when I would see her at church or at the Elks in Ogallala. She was a very special lady. I am so sorry for your loss.  
Rose Williams

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**Rose Williams** - February 10, 2016 at 09:08 AM

KL

“ I am sad to learn Karen is no longer with us.. I have missed her since you moved away.  
Loosing a parent is never easy. God knows they get tired and we must let go. Please know you will be in my thoughts. Karla Lawler

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**karla lawler** - February 09, 2016 at 11:15 PM

MK

“ I met Karen when we bowled on Wednesday morning coffee league. What a beautiful lady! She was a great lady and will be missed. Ron and Michele Kugler

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**Michele Kugler** - February 09, 2016 at 10:30 PM

WC

“ William J. Chemelli purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Karen K. McQuillan.



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**William J. Chemelli** - February 09, 2016 at 09:16 PM

WC

“ *May She rest in peace*

*Bill and Mary Chemelli*

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**William J. Chemelli** - February 09, 2016 at 07:52 PM

VK

“ *I didn't know Karen very well, but I know she was an amazing mother because I know her daughter Shannon who is kind and loving and a tribute to her mother! May god bless you all! Vanessa Krisle*

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**vanessa krisle** - February 09, 2016 at 05:24 PM

LM

“ *Jim and family we want to send our prayers and thoughts in the passing of Karen. She was a kind and loving lady she will be missed by everyone. May God bless your family and wrap his loving arms around you at this time. Prayers, Larry and Deb Merritt*

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**Larry and Deb Merritt** - February 09, 2016 at 03:35 PM

GJ

“ *Grace and Linda Jones purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Karen K. McQuillan.*



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**Grace and Linda Jones** - February 09, 2016 at 02:59 PM