



Karen Sue Kangas

February 6, 1953 - July 18, 2018

STRONG – Karen Sue Kangas, 65, of North Anson, died peacefully surrounded by loving family and friends at the home of one of her dearest friends in Strong on the evening of July 18, following a courageous battle with cancer.

She was born Feb. 6, 1953 in Livermore, CA., a daughter of Virgil and Helen (Westerman) Hartz. She received her education in Livermore schools and completed secretarial studies. With her husband, Peter kangas, (whom she married on Sept. 22, 1973), and their young son, Erik in tow and another on the way, this young family came east as young visionary “hippies” to explore their future and to find true joy in building everything together, from building their small log home, nestled in the Western Maine mountains and made from fresh cut trees on their ten acre property with a good fresh water supply to nurturing their family owned business Kangas, Inc. a leading manufacturing company for drumbrushes and drumsticks.

Hers was a life designed around gifts of the heart. Her devotion to family could be seen by the love she had for her grandchildren, her chosen friends who became “family”, as well as the welcoming spaces in her heart for those who might otherwise be shunned or seemingly forgotten.

She was a woman of integrity and deep faith and was a founding member of the Living Waters Church in Farmington. A hobby that she shared with those whom she dearly adored was her gift of making beautiful cakes for all occasions.

She is loved by her husband, Peter, of N.Anson; their sons: Erik and his wife, Madison of Strong and Davin of N. Anson; grandchildren Alec Marcheterre, Trinity, Avery, Irelynn and Della kangas; her parents, Virgil and Helen Hartz of Livermore, Ca; and siblings Robert Hartz and his wife, Margaret, Chuck Hartz and his wife, Lee, all of Livermore, Ca. and Deborah Olsen and her husband, Rick of Tracy, CA., and Linda Ellicott of Strong whom she considered as family.

Her family invites you to share tributes and condolences on her memorial wall at www.wilesrc.com.

KANGAS – died, at Strong, 7/18/2018, Karen Sue kangas, 65, of North Anson, formerly of Strong. Private family committal services will be held at the Freeman Cemetery. Family and friends are invited to a Celebration of Life service on Tuesday July 24th at 1 PM from

the Living Waters Church with Pastor Steve Bracey officiating. Remembrance gifts may be given to her family c/o Wiles Remembrance Center, 137 Farmington Falls Road Farmington, Maine 04938.

Following services, all are welcome to attend a comfort reception hosted by the church hospitality committee. Arrangements are in the care of the Wiles Remembrance Center, 137 Farmington Falls Rd., (Rtes. 2 & 27) Farmington.

Cemetery

West Freeman Cemetery
West Freeman Road
Freeman Twp, ME, 04983

Events

JUL 24 **Celebration of Life** 01:00PM
Living Waters Assembly of God
547 Wilton Road, Farmington, ME, US, 04938

JUL 24 **Reception** 02:00PM
Living Waters Assembly of God
547 Wilton Road, Farmington, ME, US, 04938

Comments



“ A tribute video has been added.



Wiles Remembrance Center and staff - July 23, 2018 at 02:09 PM



“ Karen was a special friend and neighbor to me, she was always there when needed, especially me being overwhelmed in being a "new Mom", Karen knew what to do to reassure me. She also provided us with the neighborhood childcare. In later years we enjoyed the Women's weekends together with our close group of neighbors who have remained close even though some of us moved away. Thank you Karen you are special and will be missed. Ellen Randall

Ellen - July 24, 2018 at 07:01 PM



“ February 6, 1953 was an eventful day for two families, one in California and one in Pennsylvania.

That was the day two girls were born, they were the third child in each family. One was Karen the other was my middle sister. A bond between families that had yet to meet.

In the 50 years that I've known Karen, She transitioned from teenager, to wife, to mother, to business owner to grandmother. She filled her life with adventure, family and friends. Her easy going personality and bountiful energy always made her fun to be with.

Over the years her enthusiasm took her down many paths. After a trip to Mexico, in her teens, it was marionettes. But that was only the start, she would take up juggling, basket weaving, cake decorating, and she made a mean apple pie. The best I ever ate.

She enjoyed Mexican food, gardening, music, looking at model homes, and just hanging out.

She was always game to try different things from living in a tee-pee in the Santa Cruz mountains to moving to Maine and building a log cabin with Pete and starting their own business.

Of all the memories though, the most prominent about Karen is her love for her family and the joy she got from being with them.

While, she may have gone on to join her eternal family, I know she will be there to welcome us when it is our time. And with an apple pie if I have anything to say about it.

Thank you for letting me share a few of my memories about Karen, a much loved

sister-in-law.
Lee Hartz

Charles Hartz - July 24, 2018 at 11:35 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Karen Sue Kangas.



July 23, 2018 at 03:22 PM



“ Love, Robyn Steve Jesse Jamie Michelle Chrissy Julie Erin purchased the Ocean Breeze Spray for the family of Karen Sue Kangas.



Love, Robyn Steve Jesse Jamie Michelle Chrissy Julie Erin - July 23, 2018 at 12:12 PM



“ 33 files added to the album Life Tributes



Wiles Remembrance Center and staff - July 23, 2018 at 12:06 PM



“ Love Mom & Dad, Chuck, Lee & family purchased the Sweet Solace Spray for the family of Karen Sue Kangas.





“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Karen Sue Kangas.



July 22, 2018 at 07:35 PM



“ Erik lit a candle in memory of Karen Sue Kangas



erik - July 21, 2018 at 09:59 PM



“ Karen and Pete graciously gave me my first ‘real’ job when I was 15. Karen was such a warm, funny, kind, thoughtful, and delightful person to be around: she was such a great model of quiet perseverance to me. I’m so sorry for your loss, Pete, Erik and Davin. Karen gave so much: I pray that you are comforted knowing she is with the Creator who loved her most, and poured His love out through her.

Stephenie Norris O’Connell - July 21, 2018 at 06:27 AM



“ I have known Karen soon after we moved to Strong in 1979. She has always been a good friend. Since 2009 she and I and at least three other friends have gone on an annual weekend somewhere in the state...Camden, Boothbay Harbor, Bar Harbor, Portland, Lucerne, Lee. We always had a great time and much of that was due to Karen's sense of humor and positive attitude. Our little group will miss her presence very much. My heart goes out to Pete, Erik, Madison, Trinity, Davin and his children and to her very good friend Linda Ellicott who took such great care of Karen during this past year and to Lorraine Mitchell who was also so very close to Karen. I wish you all peace.

Joanie Dawson - July 20, 2018 at 08:39 PM



“ I can not even find words to write right now.....I know I will miss Karen and always remember the kind of woman, friend, mom, sister, daughter she was. Her family is extraordinary, so welcoming, loving, close, and funny. I was so very lucky to be so comfortably included.

Linda Ellicott - July 21, 2018 at 05:39 AM



“ Karen's passing is a great loss to many. She was so kind and friendly; having an easy way about her that made you feel comfortable right away. She was always willing to help, but never wanting the lime light. Her strength and faith through this ordeal has been a testimony to many. She trusted God no matter the outcome. We will miss Karen!

Terry and Melanie White - July 21, 2018 at 08:26 AM



“ It is difficult to accept that Karen is no longer with us. We send our love to Pete, Erik, Madison and Trinity, Davin and his children, as well as to her parents and siblings. Thank you, Linda, for being an amazing support to her. - Scott and June

June - July 21, 2018 at 08:28 AM

“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Karen Sue Kangas.



July 20, 2018 at 05:54 PM