



Karen Kay Pokorny

November 17, 1965 - March 5, 2025

Karen Kay Pokorny (59) of Omaha, Nebraska, passed away on March 5, 2025 surrounded by her family. As her family journeyed with her, Karen privately battled stage four cancer for 3 ½ years.

Karen was born on November 17, 1965 in Columbus to Bert and Lenore Nosal Pokorny. She attended St. Isidore Elementary School and Scotus Central Catholic High School, graduating in 1983. She graduated from Kearney State College in 1987 with a bachelor's degree.

Karen enjoyed theatre, Broadway, and music concerts, with the Eagles as her favorite band. Recently, she was able to attend her sixth Eagles concert, the Long Goodbye tour, with her sisters at The Sphere in Las Vegas. Most of all, Karen loved being with her large family of siblings, nieces, and nephews. She was truly a “super aunt”, treating each and every one of her nieces and nephews as if they were the most important person around. Her nieces and nephews continued to give her goals to reach for during her battle, including marriages, graduations, and arrivals of great nieces and nephews, the most recent great-niece arriving only 6 days before her passing. She was a wonderful godmother to her sister, Colleen, nephews, Branden and Micah, and niece, Taylor.

She excelled at her profession and her career as a national bank examiner

with the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency. She retired in February, 2022, having worked out of offices in Omaha and San Francisco for 35 years. Karen's work often took her to New York City, where her love of Broadway sparked. She especially enjoyed Wicked, Jersey Boys, Phantom of the Opera, and Rent. Her job also took her to all parts of the US and to London, England. Because of this, her knowledge of the British royal family and all things Princess Diana was exceptional. Although she was not particularly a Major League Baseball fan, she was proud of attending ball games in almost all of the MLB ballparks.

Karen is survived by her mom, Lenore of Omaha, brother, Chris of Waverly, sisters, Kim (Bart) Cline of Lenox, IA, Kelly (Jason) Gibson of Omaha, and Colleen (Eric) Spies of Omaha, 10 nieces and nephews, and 10 great nieces and nephews: Kyle (Kath) Pokorny (Brody and Abby), Amy Pokorny, Branden (Rachel) Cline (Chesney, Fallon, and Monroe), Cody (Katin) Cline (Bo and Keller), Carson (Alyssa) Cline (Waylon and Colter), Allie (Carter) Still (Harper), Taylor Gibson, Trevor (Abbi) Gibson, Ava Spies, and Micah Spies. She is preceded in death by her dad, Bert, her grandparents, and many aunts, uncles and cousins.

Take it easy, Karen; you now have a peaceful, easy feeling. We love and miss you dearly.

In Lieu of Flowers, Memorials are suggested to the family for later designation.

Previous Events

Visitation with family

MAR **24.** 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

St. Patrick's Catholic Church
20500 W. Maple Road
Elkhorn, NE 68022

Vigil service

MAR **24.** 7:00 PM (CT)

St. Patrick's Catholic Church
20500 W. Maple Road
Elkhorn, NE 68022

Mass of the Christian Burial

MAR **25.** 10:00 AM (CT)

St. Patrick's Catholic Church
20500 W. Maple Road
Elkhorn, NE 68022

Tribute Wall

KO

“ Dear Pokorny Family, I was shocked and saddened to hear of Karen’s passing. I will cherish all the memories we had from our first day of junior high to our graduation at Kearney State and beyond. Sending hugs and prayers for comfort to your entire family. Love,
Karen (Mielak) Ogle

Karen Ogle - March 25, 2025 at 01:06 PM

N(

“ Dear Lenore, Chris, Kim, Kelly and Colleen. I am so sorry and heartbroken to hear about Karen’s passing. She was such a special part of my family’s lives on 30th Street in Columbus. I have such wonderful memories of her babysitting me and my brothers Scott, and Craig. We look at the pictures and it is so clear how much fun we had with her and your very special family. I will never forget how much fun Kelly, Nicki and I had riding to out of town Scotus football games in the back of your dad’s truck with Karen and Kim.💕 I am praying you are finding comfort and peace in all the beautiful memories you hold in your hearts. With love, Nikki

Nikki Davidson (Jones) - March 24, 2025 at 11:20 PM

GS

“ Lenore and family, so very sorry for your loss. May your memories help you thru this difficult time.

gGenda Steinsberger - March 21, 2025 at 10:17 AM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Karen Kay Pokorny.*



March 20, 2025 at 05:56 PM



“ *2 files added to the album karen*



jennifer faulkner - March 19, 2025 at 11:22 PM



“ *Debbie Curry purchased the Simply Elegant Spat hiphyllum for the family of Karen Kay Pokorny.*



Debbie Curry - March 19, 2025 at 02:58 PM



“ *Debbie Curry planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Karen Kay Pokorny.*

Debbie Curry - March 19, 2025 at 02:58 PM

AH

“ I am so saddened to learn of Karen’s passing. Please accept my deepest sympathies. I had the pleasure of working with Karen on various assignments over 20 years. She was smart, articulate, and hard-working – and her example of excellence was an inspiration to me and many others. I’m going to try to not cry because her life is over, but smile because it happened – and hope that, in time, your family is able to do the same. Amy Holzem

Amy Holzem - March 16, 2025 at 04:01 PM

CL

“ I learned a tremendous amount from Karen as a work colleague. She was dedicated to so much, yet it was clear that she put family and the simple joys of life ahead of everything. We laughed and smiled a lot together. I can’t imagine the gap she leaves behind for the many people who loved her. I pray for everyone to find peace in her memory knowing she did this thing we call life incredibly well.

--Chris Landles-Cobb

Chris Landles-Cobb - March 12, 2025 at 10:43 AM

LH

“ Dear Lenore and Family, My heart is broken at the news of Karen’s passing. She was so formative in my life, and I will treasure her friendship forever. Karen, I’ll meet you at our corner one day. Sending my love and deepest condolences to all of you. Lisa Henggeler

Lisa Henggeler - March 11, 2025 at 01:46 PM

JR

“ Our sympathies to Lenore and family ! Our thought's are with you all at this difficult time !

Judith Reinsch - March 10, 2025 at 02:41 PM

LB

“ Lenore and family, We are so sad to hear of the loss of your daughter. Our hearts are with you. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Thy holy name evermore praising thee...and now she walks among all the glorious company of heaven. Lynn and Dennis Behlen and Family

Lynn Behlen - March 09, 2025 at 10:13 PM

SA

“ Dear Lenore and family, I pray for God's strength and peace be with you all as you live through the loss of Karen's earthly life. She was loved by many, and will be missed, but the memory of her will live on and never be lost. Sending you much love.

Susan Arcese - March 08, 2025 at 12:34 PM

JE

“ Lenore, Chris, Kim, Kelly, Coleen and extended family: I grieve for you..losing a wonderful daughter, sister and the best aunt anyone could ask for. She was so devoted to all of you. For 35 years she shared Pokorny events with me..births, illnesses, weddings, etc., because family mattered. I lost my best friend of 35+years. I am thankful we got to say goodbye this week. Along with you, I will miss her greatly!

jennifer - March 07, 2025 at 09:17 PM

TS

“ I am so sorry for your loss. Karen's dedication to public service and her pride in her work were a testament to the wonderful, intelligent woman she was. I am honored to have worked with her and sad she has left us too soon. Sending much sympathy. May Karen rest in peace. Tanya Smith

Tanya Smith - March 07, 2025 at 04:42 PM

GF

“ Dan & I are so thankful to have shared so many wonderful memories with Karen over the years from wine trips to wedding celebrations. Karen's friendship was cherished and the time that we shared as coworkers was special in and outside of the office. I'll remember Karen fondly. May she rest in peace. - Gwen & Dan Froseth

Gwen Froseth - March 07, 2025 at 03:59 PM

KE

“ I am so sorry for your loss. I have so many great memories of Karen. She was always so sweet and kind to everyone. I'll never forget the weekend Kim and I spent with her when we did our visit to check out going to college at her school. My thoughts and prayers are with all of you during this difficult time.

Kelly Ekstrom - March 07, 2025 at 12:03 PM

HP

“ Pokorny Family, so very sorry for your loss. I have so many great fun memories of Karen and our friendship from our Shamrock days. God Bless Heidi Hoffman Plance

Heidi Plance - March 07, 2025 at 09:31 AM