



Karen Evans

August 6, 1952 - May 14, 2018

Karen A. Evans, 65 of Pekin, passed away at 9:10 am, Monday, May 14, 2018 at her home surrounded by her family.

She was born in Granite City, IL on August 6, 1952 to Joseph and Betty (Prewitt) Dobrowolski. She married David P. Evans on April 6, 1985 in Pekin. He survives.

She was preceded in death by her parents, and one brother, Joseph A. Dobrowolski.

Karen is survived by; her husband David; one son Zachary Evans of Pekin; six grandchildren, Robyn, Aaron, Cody, Briar, Jace and Jonah Evans; two sisters, Jean Knox of Granite City, and Janet (Doug) Rains of Lakeside, Ca.; and nieces and nephews, Godson Nathaniel Rains, Joanna (Chris) Perry, and Matthew Dobrowolski.

She attended Saint Teresa Academy in East St. Louis. She received her undergraduate degree from Illinois State University where she majored in science, specializing in biology and chemistry, and was a founding Mother of Zeta Tau Alpha Sorority. She earned her Master's Degree from St. Xavier University. She taught at Pekin Community High School for 33 years, retiring in 2007. One of her greatest honors was the large number of her students who went on to be teachers, many science teachers, stating that her example inspired them to the profession. In 1995 the PCHS Board of Education named her the Outstanding Contributor, she was frequently nominated as a member of Who's Who Among American Teachers. Karen was the long time official scorer for girls' basketball volleyball games, and faculty advisor for the Pom Pom Squad. She was active in conservation organizations, and chaired the local Ducks Unlimited Ladies' Chapter of the River City Duckettes and received special recognition for her work. Karen and David were Life Sponsors, Diamond Life Sponsors, and Sponsors in Perpetuity in both the Pekin and Garrison, MN chapters of D.U. She was also an accomplished floral gardener and animal lover.

As per Karen's very strong wishes, her body has been donated to science for medical

advancement and training. A private Celebration of Life will be held later this month. Henderson Funeral Home & Crematory is assisting Karen's family with arrangements.

Karen was cherished by her family, and friends and all who knew her as a most beautifully loving, caring, thoughtful, generous, giving lady in the finest sense of the word.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Illinois Cancer Care, 8940 N Wood Sage Rd, Peoria, IL 61615-7828.

Comments



“ Karen was one of the most beautiful people I have known. My heart, thoughts and prayers go out to Dave and the rest of her family. I know she was loved by many and will be missed as well.



Steven R Cummings - June 22, 2018 at 11:56 PM



“ Dear Dave and Family,
Karen was the most caring person I know. Even during her tough times, Karen would continue to ask about others and their families. This world suffered a great loss when she left it to meet her Maker.

MaryAnn - May 24, 2018 at 04:25 PM



“ She was far the best teacher in that school, and she retired with my graduation. It pains me to know theres been a whole generation that never knew her, and how awesome of a person she truly was. My condolences to her family- but please know, her students still think of her, and will miss her greatly.

Khristine McMillan - May 24, 2018 at 11:59 AM



“ David, Jeanne and Janet,
Our hearts are truly saddened by the loss of our cousin Karen. We all know the struggles she endured and yet she never really complained. You all were by her side through these trying times, you were her rock she could lean on. Please know that you are in our thoughts and prayers. She is at peace now and joining our other family members in heaven.

Mike and Lynne Owens and Family

Lynne Owens - May 22, 2018 at 10:36 AM



“ Dear Dave and Family,

Not only was Karen my teacher but she was a great advisor. I took care of your home while you traveled to your cabin each summer. Also watered flowers and mowed the lawn. I will never forget the beautiful soul Karen shared with me through the years she was one of a kind and I will always remember her love and kindness she shared with me. Keeping you and your family in my thoughts and prayers!
Meghan Switzer

Meghan Switzer - May 18, 2018 at 08:11 PM



“ Karen was my oldest friend! We grew up just 2 doors down and were always together. I have so many memories that I will forever cherish! My love to all!

Andrea Shepard - May 18, 2018 at 07:56 PM



“ Dear Dave and family,
There are so many people in Pekin that have wonderful memories of Karen. She was a wonderful teacher, wife, mother and grandmother. I know this is an extremely hard time for you because you have been at her side during all of the struggle. She was a fighter and now at peace. May you continue with your loved memories. Our prayers and thoughts are with you and your family! Nancy Wherry

Nancy Wherry - May 18, 2018 at 04:16 PM



“ Sorry that you passed, Karen. I will miss you. You have always been a very good friend. You have always stood by me in my difficult times. My sympathies to you, Dave. Doug Jones

Doug Jones - May 18, 2018 at 12:43 PM



“ Thoughts and prayers to the entire family in this difficult time

alan lewis - May 17, 2018 at 05:08 PM



“ Karen was my Biology teacher and I loved having her. She was energetic, interesting, and incredibly motivating. And like many of her other former students, I also went on to become a teacher. She was one of my absolute favorite teachers, and I have some wonderful memories of her class.

Holly Cihla - May 17, 2018 at 12:18 PM



“ Karen was the kindness, gracious, giving person anyone could have the pleasure of having as a teacher and Pom Pom Advisor. I was lucky to have her as my Pom Pom Advisor Class of 1977. I will never forget the great times and her always being there for you if you needed her. She always had a Smile on her face. My thoughts and prayers are with her family. She will always have a place in my heart!



Diane K Stubbs - May 17, 2018 at 11:25 AM



“ Janet and Jean and family, we are heartbroken to hear of Karen's passing. We will cherish all the sweet and wonderful memories of Karen and our childhood on Iowa Street. Your family is in our hearts and prayers. Love and hugs, Denny, Alexis, and Andrea Thebeau and families

Alexis Sanasarian - May 16, 2018 at 10:36 PM



“ Dave-There are so many great times we shared together inside and outside the school setting. My favorite is our laughter during the torrential downpour when camping. Karen always had a smile no matter how tough life was and made anyone she was with smile. Memories of Karen will always be with us.



Carol Gnehm - May 16, 2018 at 06:11 PM



“ Deacon Mark Scamp lit a candle in memory of Karen Evans



Deacon Mark Scamp - May 16, 2018 at 02:29 PM



“ Mrs. Evans was one of my Teachers at Pekin High School West Campus. I always enjoyed her class. My thoughts and prayers are with your family during this time.



Gina Clevenger Anske - May 16, 2018 at 02:00 PM



“ Dave, Zach & family,
We are so sorry about your loss. Karen touched so many lives in her 65 years. She was a blessing & I feel privileged to have met her.



linda robertson - May 16, 2018 at 01:12 PM



“ Deacon Mark Wilder lit a candle in memory of Karen Evans



Deacon Mark Wilder - May 16, 2018 at 09:20 AM



“ Diane Eastabrook lit a candle in memory of Karen Evans



Diane Eastabrook - May 15, 2018 at 10:31 PM



“ Joe And Linda Stoner lit a candle in memory of Karen Evans



Joe and Linda Stoner - May 15, 2018 at 12:29 PM



“ Karen was a lovely soul. We will always remember her beautiful smile and enthusiasm for life! Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Joe and Linda Stoner - May 15, 2018 at 12:33 PM



“ Karen was a creative and caring teacher who challenged her students to do their very best. She was a wonderful person. I was blessed by her kindness and friendship. She will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

Tim Ruwe - May 15, 2018 at 09:08 PM



“ This truly breaks my heart. Karen is one of my fondest memories at PCHS. I had the privilege of being on the pom pom squad all four years she was the advisor. She always had a smile on her face and was so devoted to all of us. Karen was a lovely person. My

sincerest condolences to her family.

Diane Eastabrook

Diane Eastabrook - May 15, 2018 at 10:35 PM



“ I was a student of hers back in the 1980s, she really brought Science to life, she was an extraordinary teacher, wish there was more like her! She will be missed

shantel becker - May 16, 2018 at 07:26 AM



“ Dear Dave & Family,
Karen was such a lovely woman. It was our honor to have assisted in her care. We wish you peace.

Take Care

Sue Kyle

Kyle's Care at Home

sue kyle - May 16, 2018 at 10:16 AM



“ Dave,
My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

God Bless,

Amy Psinas

Amy Psinas - May 16, 2018 at 02:29 PM



“ Remembering her family during their time of sorrow. She was such a beautiful person.

joe and kathy Schwalb - May 17, 2018 at 10:26 AM



“ Karen was my biology teacher at West Campus and always had a smile on her face, and made learning fun. Definitely one of my favorite teachers at PCHS!!! My thoughts and prayers are with her family at this difficult time.

Robyn Smith-Finley

Robyn Finley - May 18, 2018 at 03:17 PM



“ Dear Dave & Family,
So sorry to hear about Karen. I enjoyed our times together in the science department. You're in my thoughts during this difficult time.

Jill Carter

Jill Carter - May 18, 2018 at 03:36 PM



“ Very sorry to hear of Karen's passing, but now her struggle is past and she may rest in eternal peace. Janet and I enjoyed our time with Dave and Karen in Northern Minnesota, at our Super Bowl parties in our home, and at their New Year's Day gatherings in their home. Having had Karen's niece Joanna in my American Government class at PCHS was a real pleasure and allowed me to get to know the Evans family even better. Deepest condolences to Dave and to the rest of Karen's family.

Roger & Janet Gibbens

Roger Gibbens - May 18, 2018 at 05:06 PM



“ I was a long time sub at PCHS and Karen was just an outstanding teacher. She really cared about her students and was a super nice person. So sorry she's gone.

Phyllis Kincaid - May 18, 2018 at 07:47 PM



“ I adored Karen. Not only was she my biology teacher at PCHS, but she was my big-big sister at the ISU chapter of Zeta Tau Alpha. She influenced my life in so many ways and will be missed. My condolences to her family. Rest in peace, Karen!

Kim Marie - May 22, 2018 at 10:32 AM