



Karen Luther Brasee

April 11, 1933 - October 12, 2018

Karen Lorelle Luther Brasee, 85, passed away on October 12, 2018, in Grand Island, NE.

Karen was born to Otto and Margaret (Meyer) Luther on April 11, 1933, in Wisner, NE. Raised on a farm in northwest Cuming County, Karen attended a one-room country school located on her grandfather's land before graduating from Wisner High School in 1950 at 17. She received an Associate's Degree in Chemistry from Colorado Women's College in Denver, CO in 1952. Karen then enrolled in a joint degree program with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and the University of Nebraska Medical Center where she studied chemistry. Following graduation in 1954, she received a joint Master's of Science in Medical Technology and a certification as a Medical Technologist. Married to Carl R. Brasee on November 30, 1957; the couple moved to Grand Island to share a full and happy life.

Karen lived a life of value - and of values - in many ways, public and private. She was a Medical Technologist for St. Francis Hospital for many years. She was the Chairman of the Board of Citizens Bank & Trust Company in St. Paul, Loup City and Central City from 1975 to 2013, remaining Chairman Emeritus after her retirement. Karen valued knowledge and wherever she lived - Grand Island, a cabin in Spearfish Canyon, SD or Arizona - dozens and dozens of books of varied subjects would appear for the benefit of all. She was an active

member of Trinity Lutheran Church and went on numerous mission trips serving women in prison in Russia and the Baltic states with her friend, Pastor John Reehl. She served on the Public Employees Retirement Board for the State of Nebraska. The Nebraska Foundation for the Humanities, the Board of Councilors for UNMC and the board of directors of the Museum of Nebraska Art are three of many nonprofits boards on which she skillfully served. Karen was true to her friendships, including through her P.E.O. Chapter, book clubs and bridge club. Her counsel was often sought on matters great and small with the knowledge that the response would be thoughtful and true. She deer hunted and fished walleye alongside her father and with her husband, flew around North America as Carl's co-pilot, camped throughout the West with her family (especially her beloved Spearfish Canyon, SD), skied for many years, and exercised race horses at Fonner Park. There are scores of "Karen quilts" throughout the country that swaddle and comfort the children of friends from infancy onward. She tirelessly drove thousands of miles a year to meaningfully participate in the lives of her children, grandchildren and friends.

Remaining to cherish her memory is her husband of more than 60 years - Carl R. Brasee. In addition, she is loved and honored by her children, Margret Brasee Loftus (Eric), John C. Brasee (Debbie) and Mark L. Brasee (Mary Lou); her grandchildren, Courtney Marie Brasee, Cameron Russell Brasee, Rehn Lorelle Loftus and Lincoln Brasee Loftus; her sister, Bonnie McGinnis; numerous nieces and nephews and many friends.

Preceding Karen to the arms of our Savior are her parents, Otto and Margaret Luther; her brother, John C. Luther; and her nephew, Scott L. McGinnis.

Visitation will be from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm on Monday, October 15, 2018, at Trinity Lutheran Church, 212 W 12th St, Grand Island, NE 68801.

Funeral services for Karen will be 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, October 16, 2018, at

Trinity Lutheran Church, 212 W 12th St, Grand Island, NE 68801, with internment to follow at the Grand Island Cemetery, 3168 W Stolley Park Rd, Grand Island, NE 68801.

All Faiths Funeral Home is entrusted with arrangements.

Memorials may be directed to: Trinity Lutheran Church or the Child Saving Institute, Omaha, NE in lieu of flowers.

Cemetery Details

Grand Island City Cemetery

Grand Island, NE

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **15**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Trinity Lutheran Church
Grand Island, NE

Service

OCT **16**. 10:30 AM (CT)

Trinity Lutheran Church
Grand Island, NE

Tribute Wall



“ *Karen Luther Brasee*

October 08, 2023 at 11:02 PM



“ *Dear Carl and Family,*

We were blessed to have the opportunity to know and share a brief moment of Karen's life and with all of you. Such a beautiful smile and blue eyes that will always be remembered. Thank you for sharing this precious moment of her life with us. May God bless you all and comfort you through this most difficult time of loss. She will forever be vivacious and beautiful through all the memories shared with each other in the years to come.

Sincerely,

Pat McFeely

Pat McFeely - October 17, 2018 at 09:25 AM



“ *Dear Mark,*

We send our deepest condolences to you and your family during this difficult time. It was an honor to meet your mom and her good qualities are evidenced in you.

Sincerely,

Greg, Cindy and Ellen Sechser

Greg Sechser - October 16, 2018 at 05:28 PM

KF

“ Dear Mr. Brasee, Margret, John and Mark,

Your loving wife and mother, Karen, will be greatly missed but truly never forgotten. I can see her beautiful smile and caring eyes as I send this note. My thoughts and prayers are with you.

Love Kristi (Nabity) Frei

Kristi Frei - October 15, 2018 at 03:04 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Karen Luther Brasee.



October 15, 2018 at 02:53 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Karen Luther Brasee.



October 15, 2018 at 02:27 PM

 Marcia
Davis

“ Dear Carl and family,

As a child in Cuming County, Karen's family and my grandma's family, Gus and Laura Lueshen, were close friends. Generations later, as members of Trinity Lutheran, Karen and I connected and shared her stories; we also spoke of her being Bonnie's sister - how Mike and Scott were classmates with my siblings and me, etc.

Karen was a role model to exemplify in many areas of life. Her zest for life and her intense interest in people stand out in my memory when I recall her classic appearance and presence.

May her promotion to the glories of heaven with Jesus be the goal, and His promise to all believers, for us when He calls us home.

*Radical for Jesus,
Marcia [Goeller, Schmidt] Davis
Fremont, NE*

Marcia Davis - October 15, 2018 at 09:20 AM

BM

“ Mark,

So sorry to hear about your loss. Your Mom was a Beautiful Lady. Keep all the memories close to your heart and know that my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family at this time.

*Sincerely Sympathy,
Bonita Mentzer*

Bonita Mentzer - October 15, 2018 at 08:18 AM