



## Karen Kay Luft

July 15, 1940 - December 18, 2023

Karen Kay Luft, age 83, of Grand Island, passed away Monday, December 18, 2023 at CHI St. Francis Medical Center.

A funeral service will be held Thursday, December 28th at 10:30am at All Faiths Funeral Home. Dan Naranjo officiating. Visitation will be held Wednesday, December 27th from 5-7pm at the funeral home. Interment will take place at the Grand Island City Cemetery. Memorials suggested to the family for future designation. Condolences can be left at [www.giallfaiths.com](http://www.giallfaiths.com).

Karen was born on July 15, 1940 to Eleanor Grennan and Benjamin Haag, whom was a professor at UNL. Eleanor later married Gerald Manka and Karen was adopted by him. They farmed in rural Hamilton and Merrick Counties, where she attended school, graduating from Chapman High School in 1958. While in school she was active in volleyball, basketball, cheer and drama earning a full ride scholarship to Kearney State College and graduating as Salutatorian.

She was united in marriage to William C. Luft in 1959 and to this union were born three children, Lisa K (White), William II and Earl E. They traveled across Nebraska and the United States while William operated heavy equipment and later owned and operated Luft Trucking. Karen enjoyed league bowling for over 30 years and was active in the Eagles FOE and American Legion Aux

both for over 50 years. She also competed in and for the Eagles Drill Team. They won back-to-back championships in 1971-1972. Karen worked in accounting and book-keeping at the Wardrobe in downtown Grand Island until it closed. Then at Nebraska Office Service/Office Net for three generations of the same family. Being very hard working she always worked more than one job as a bartender and waitress at the Eagles and the Doniphan American Legion Post #300 which was more than a job to her. She called it her second home.

She loved helping people, her animals, flowers and various plants throughout the house, as well as camping. Karen to the end was a very selfless person, putting her friends, family and especially her children before herself. From this instilled family first and excellent work ethic with everyone around her. Karen enjoyed traveling with her group of friends that would travel the US called her "Posse".

Those left to cherish her memory daughter, Lisa White (Ronald Dillard) of Grand Island and their children, Kyle, Cameron and Cody; son, William II (Nancy) of St. Libory and their children, Kayla (Nickolas Jones), Alexis, Shelby (Matthew Fecht), William III (Brittany Abrego) and Logan (Brittannie Hollinger); grandson, Tyler E. Luft (Haley); great grandchildren, Kinsley, Hendrix, Bethany, Declan, Carson, Anna, Weston.

She is preceded in death by her parents; son, Earl E., sister, Joan Hardekopf and great granddaughter, Hazel Kay Luft.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC **27**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

All Faiths Funeral Home  
2929 S Locust St  
Grand Island, NE 68801  
(308) 398-2929  
allfaiths@giallfaiths.com  
<https://www.giallfaiths.com/>

## Funeral Service

DEC **28**. 10:30 AM (CT)

All Faiths Funeral Home  
2929 S Locust St  
Grand Island, NE 68801  
(308) 398-2929  
allfaiths@giallfaiths.com  
<https://www.giallfaiths.com/>

# Tribute Wall



“ All Faiths Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Karen Kay Luft



All Faiths Funeral Home - December 28, 2023 at 10:05 AM

CD

*K was like a second mom to me loved her as one will miss her dearly*

Connie Demary - December 28, 2023 at 10:29 AM

BS

“ Bill & Sherry Schaffnitt planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Karen Kay Luft.

Bill & Sherry Schaffnitt - December 27, 2023 at 03:44 PM

BS

“ Bill & Sherry Schaffnitt purchased the Blue Carib bean Bouquet for the family of Karen Kay Luft.



Bill & Sherry Schaffnitt - December 27, 2023 at 03:44 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Karen Kay Luft.*



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December 27, 2023 at 11:11 AM



“ *The Stefka Families planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Karen Kay Luft.*

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**The Stefka Families** - December 27, 2023 at 11:11 AM



“ *Ohio Purple Fish planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Karen Kay Luft.*

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**Ohio Purple Fish** - December 25, 2023 at 04:14 AM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Karen Kay Luft.*



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December 25, 2023 at 04:14 AM



“ *Purple Fish MC, Nebraska purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Karen Kay Luft.*



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**Purple Fish MC, Nebraska** - December 22, 2023 at 03:23 PM

HC

“ Heartland Health Center planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Karen Kay Luft.

Heartland Health Center - December 22, 2023 at 09:40 AM



“ Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Karen Kay Luft.



December 22, 2023 at 09:40 AM



“ A grove of 5 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Karen Kay Luft.

December 22, 2023 at 09:06 AM

DK

“ Aunt Kay was a wonderful person. Always attended all of the family functions. She will be missed. RIP  
Delyce Luft Knuth  
Ray & Mabel Luft's daughter.

delyce luft knuth - December 21, 2023 at 06:24 PM

KR

“ Ken and Mary Beth Richardson planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Karen Kay Luft.

Ken and Mary Beth Richardson - December 21, 2023 at 05:43 PM

KR

“ Ken and Mary Beth Richardson purchased the Pretty Please for the family of Karen Kay Luft.



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**Ken and Mary Beth Richardson** - December 21, 2023 at 05:43 PM

MR

“ 3 files added to the album Tribute Wall for Kay Luft



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**Mary Beth Richardson** - December 21, 2023 at 05:21 PM