

Karen Marie Sutter, 83, died peacefully on April 8, 2020, at The Cottage, Ecumen, in Detroit Lakes, Minnesota.

Karen was born July 19, 1936, in Hamburg, Iowa, the daughter of Harold and Mary (Glenn) Zach. She graduated from Rock Port High School in 1954. After graduation she attended both Northwest Missouri State University in Maryville, MO and Tarkio College in Tarkio, MO pursuing a Home Economics teaching degree.

On June 1, 1958, Karen was united in marriage to James L. Sutter at the United Methodist Church in Rock Port, MO. Over the next 18 years, they resided in several towns in Missouri, Iowa, and Kansas, until finally settling in Moorhead, MN, in 1976. Karen stayed at home, keeping house and raising her children. When both children were in their teens she returned to college, graduating in 1985 with a B.S. degree in Business Administration from Moorhead State University. In 2010, Jim and Karen made a move to Detroit Lakes, MN, to be nearer to their daughter and grandchildren.

Karen had a love for genealogy. She spent nearly 30 years researching her family history. She spent many hours over the years as a volunteer at the Red River Valley Genealogical Society, helping others find information on their families. After years of research, she published a book on the Zach Family. Karen also found great joy in family photos, both old and new.

Karen was talented at sewing, crocheting, cross stitching, quilting and knitting, often making things for her home and for others. She loved other crafts as well, such as handmade pottery, furniture refinishing and upholstery and, macrame, even building a wooden 2 story Martin bird house.

Karen liked to collect antiques, including furniture, Block Optic green depression glass, Black/Amethyst glass, and White milk glass. Over the years, you could find her at local auctions, or antique stores looking for treasures. She loved finding new recipes and trying them out. Gardening, especially her Iris garden, brought her great joy. When she wasn't crafting, gardening or researching, you would hear her playing piano. She also liked to pass the time working on picture puzzles, crossword puzzles and playing cards, both Bridge & Pitch.

Karen always encouraged her children to try new things. She brought them to music lessons, art classes, summer reading programs, and sport team practices. Whatever interested them she would find a way to give them the opportunity.

Karen loved to return home to Missouri to visit family. She also spent time at her cabin on Cotton Lake enjoying the beach, pontoon rides and family dinners with the grandkids. Karen will be greatly missed by her family and friends. She was a smart, sweet, patient, kind, soft spoken woman who loved her family deeply.

Karen is survived by her husband of just shy of 62 years, Jim; son, Mike Sutter; daughter, Mindy (Rob) Nielsen; grandchildren; Ally Nielsen, McKensie (Chris) Pischel, Shay Nielsen, Jay Nielsen; sister, Nancy (Richard) Ohrt; brother, Richard (Sandy) Zach; Brother-In-Law, William (Carolyn) Sutter; numerous nieces and nephews. Preceding Karen in death are her parents, Harold and Mary (Glenn) Zach, Brother-In-Law, Richard Sutter, and infant daughter, Nikki Gail Sutter.

In Loving Memory Of



Karen Marie Sutter

1936 ~ 2020

Proverbs 31:31 Honor her for all that her hands have done, and let her works bring her praise at the city gate

*In Loving Memory Of
Karen Marie Sutter*

Date of Birth

July 19, 1936
Hamberg
Iowa

Date of Death

April 8, 2020
Detroit Lakes
Minnesota

Memorial Service

Wednesday, July 22, 2020- 11:00 a.m.
David-Donhower Funeral Home
Detroit Lakes, Minnesota
Peter Gallatin, Officiant

Readers

Shay Nielsen

Honorary Urn Bearers

Her Grandchildren

Special Music

Grant Gallatin, Pianist
"I Can Only Imagine"
"You Raise Me Up"
"Amazing Grace"

Interment

Green Hill Cemetery
Rock Port, Missouri
And
Memorial Garden, DLUMC
Detroit Lakes, Minnesota

Our family would like to thank the staff at The Cottage for the love and care that Karen received over the years while living there. We would also like to thank Hospice of the Red River Valley for their care during her end of life journey.

*God looked around his garden
And found an empty place.
He then looked down upon the earth,
And saw your tired face.*

*He put His arms around you
And lifted you to rest.
God's garden must be beautiful,
He always takes the best.*

*He knew that you were suffering,
He knew that you were in pain.
He knew that you would never
Get well on earth again.*

*He saw the road was getting rough
And the hills were hard to climb.
So He closed your weary eyelids
And whispered "Peace be thine."*

*It broke our hearts to lose you
But you did not go alone...
For part of us went with you
The day God called you home.*