Karen Kay Johnson, age 67 of Alexandria, MN, died in her home on Saturday, September 24.

Karen was born on November 6, 1954, to parents Carrie (Parker) and Ervin Johnson. She was the second oldest of five siblings. Preceded into death by her father Ervin and mother Carrie, and sister-in-law Deborah (Randy Johnson). Survived by sisters Connie (David Hovendick), and Jody, her brothers Randy and Jeff, by seven nieces and nephews and their many children.

She graduated from high school in 1972. She went to undergraduate at Bemidji State University, St. Cloud State University and graduated from the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis in 1976. She was a legal assistant in Des Moines, Iowa from 1977-1984, where she was the president of the State of Iowa Paralegal Association. Ready for a new challenge, she returned to Law School at the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis and earned her Doctorate in Juris Prudence in 1987.

She worked as a residential and commercial closer at Dakota County Abstract in Apple Valley. She lived in Apple Valley, and then Rosemount, MN until she retired in November 2019. She built a new house in the spring of 2020, and moved to Alexandria, MN to be closer to family and to enjoy the lakes area.

Karen loved an adventure and she loved to travel. Some of her favorite places were the North Shore Drive near Duluth, MN, the Rocky Mountains in Montana and Wyoming. She loved going on vacations with family to places all over the United States. She loved shopping for unique art at local shops and has many beautiful art pieces in her new home.

Karen was a fierce friend and advocate. When it came to her family and friends, she celebrated every accomplishment, no matter how big or small. When others were going through hard times, she cried with them. She also loved to laugh. One of her favorite pastimes was gathering with family or meeting friends to share a great meal over good conversation. She cared immensely about current events and keeping up with what was happening in the world.

She cheered on the underdog and believed strongly in defending those who could not defend themselves. As a supporter of the humane society, she was a champion for animals or pets that had been mistreated or left behind. She had 2 cats, Jordan and Sergei (who was a rescue cat).

### In Loving Memory



# Karen Kay Johnson

November 6, 1954 ~ September 24, 2022

#### I'm Free

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free, I'm following the path God laid for me. I took his hand when I heard his call, I turned my back and left it all. I could not stay another day, To laugh, to love, to work, to play. Tasks left undone must stay that way, I've found that peace at the close of the day. If my parting has left a void, Then fill it with remembered joy. A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss, Ah yes, these things I too will miss. Be not burdened with times of sorrow,

I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.

My Life's been full, I savored much,

Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch,

Perhaps my time seemed all too brief,

Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.

Lift up your heart and share with me,

God wanted me now, He set me free

*In Loving Memory of* 

## Karen Kay Johnson

November 6, 1954 **\$\frac{1}{2}\$** September 24, 2022

#### **Memorial Service**

Anderson Funeral Home Alexandria, Minnesota Monday, October 3, 2022, 11 AM

#### **Officiant**

Pastor Marilee Bergerson

Musical Selections By Kim Byrne

#### **Pallbearers**

Karen's Nieces & Nephews

Mandy Lemer Garrett Hovendick Naomi Peyerl Desiree Johnson Justin Johnson Dustin Hovendick

Logan Johnson

#### **Inurnment**

Gorman Cemetery Perham, Minnesota

