

Carol Cleo Kuhnau was born June 13, 1953, in Wadena, MN. She was the fifteenth child born to Wilhelm and Cleo (Atz) Kuhnau and the first of their children to be born in a hospital. Her early years were spent on the family farm by Lake Rachel. She attended District 27 country school through the sixth grade. She continued her schooling at Zion Lutheran Parochial School and graduated from Jefferson High School in 1971.

Carol moved to the Twin Cities where she worked for Murphy's Trucking. She moved on to a position with the United States Postal Service, in St. Paul, which she held for many years. Carol returned to the Alexandria area to be closer to her family. In Alexandria, she worked for Herberger's, Tastefully Simple and K-Mart.

As Carol's mother entered a nursing home in her final years, Carol found time to care for her daily. Carol also helped her brother, Paul, at his upholstery shop for a time. On one of her first upholstery jobs the completed chair looked wonderful, but Carol found she had a number of left-over chair parts.

In 2006, Carol suffered a stroke and was cared for by her devoted sister, Judi, who offered her love and exceptional health care. When the COVID-19 Stay Safe restrictions were applied Judi was unable to continue seeing Carol. Carol's family realized that the isolation Carol felt contributed greatly to her final decline in health.

Carol was talented in many ways. She was skilled in tatting, crocheting and sewing. Her love of music included playing the organ, the pan flute and the harpsichord. She also had a beautiful singing voice. She enjoyed singing in harmony with her five sisters; they thought they were like the famous Lennon sisters.

Carol's travels included Germany, Florida, Mexico, Hawaii, Colorado, the Bahamas, Hershey, PA, Canada and Wisconsin; especially riding a bicycle on a beach in Door County, WI.

Carol's family was very important to her. She loved them all dearly and was Godmother to Marc, Neil, Sheri, Nathan, Emily and Joanne. She had such a fun and infectious laugh. She will be missed greatly.

On Saturday, May 23, 2020, Carol died at the age of sixty-six years at Grand Arbor in Alexandria. She is preceded in death by her parents; brothers, Glen, Bill and Roger Kuhnau; sisters-in-law, Patty Kuhnau and Allyn Kuhnau; brother-in-law, Bob Rydberg; nieces, Tammy, Sheri and Wendy; and nephew, Brent. Carol is survived by eight brothers, Donald (Donna), Robert (Mary), Gilbert (Karen), Earl, Victor, Douglas (Birdie) and Paul Kuhnau, all of Alexandria, and Darrel Kuhnau of Florida; sisters, Delores Rydberg, Myrt Schmidt, Judi Kuhnau, Barb Chan all of Alexandria, and Kathy Causley of Illinois; and one hundred forty-five nieces and nephews.

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 Him call
I turned my back and left it all.
I could not stay another day
to laugh, to love, to work or play.
Tasks undone must stay that way.

I found that peace at close of 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've 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 hearts and peace to thee
God wanted me now; He set me free.



In Memory of

Carol Cleo Kuhnau

June 13, 1953



May 23, 2020

Funeral Service

Anderson Funeral Home
Alexandria, Minnesota
Tuesday, June 2, 2020
11:30 AM

Officiant

Reverend Todd Ertsgaard

Musician

Mertice Brueske

Casket Bearers

Paul Kuhnau
Gib Kuhnau
Vic Kuhnau
Neil Kuhnau
Nathan Chan

Earl Kuhnau
Doug Kuhnau
Bob Kuhnau
Marc Schmidt
Emily Blacksher

Joanne Judd

Interment

Kinkead Cemetery
Alexandria, Minnesota

