



## Karen Beth Janda

July 13, 1957 - January 28, 2018

Karen Beth Eich was born on July 13, 1957 in Hebron, Nebraska to Keith and Mary Huber Eich of Strang. It was hot, of course, and Keith was still harvesting wheat. He said to Mary, "Can you wait until noon?" and Mary said, "No." So Karen was born at 10:10 am and even beat Doc Lynn to the hospital. Gail and Janene were proud big sisters. When Mary and the girls went to town, Gail held Karen on a pillow and Janene held the blanket so the sun would not get in her eyes.

The girls grew up going to Strang School. When Karen started to Kindergarten, she rode to town on the back of Gail's bike. Gail and Janene would pick up the Bumgarner kids and it was quite the site, all those bikes going up the hill to school.

Karen graduated from eighth grade in 1971 in Strang with classmate LuAnn Steider. Their friendship continued for years. She graduated from Geneva High School in 1975. She was involved in many activities, volleyball, cheerleading, and music, both band and vocal, were her favorites. She attended Mt. Marty College in Yankton, SD and graduated from Northeast Nebraska Technical Community College in Norfolk with an Associate of Arts degree.

As a child, she loved nothing more than playing dress up with friend LuAnn and cousin Carol Hinrichs. They played wedding and princess and made little floats for the New Year's parades.

Karen was married to Steve Allgood on May 21, 1977. They moved to the family farm where Steve continued to farm with Karen's dad. Two children were born to this union, Eric and Aaron.

As a family, they loved to go to Karen's brother-in-law Frank Chapman's football and basketball games in Deshler and Hampton. She cherished the life-long friendships she made with these people.

Steve and Karen also enjoyed harvesting together after Karen's dad passed away in 1989. Karen drove the combine (which she took great pride in) while Steve drove the grain cart. After school, the kids would ride along -- Eric with his dad and Aaron with his mom. They were divorced on Sept. 30, 1997.

Karen was married to Harold Janda on May 23, 2003 and they lived on Harold's farm south of Friend, NE. Two step-sons and wives were added to Karen's life. Together, Harold and Karen sang in the church choir at the UCC church in Geneva. They also loved to ballroom dance and work on projects on the farm. They enjoyed traveling in recent years, checking off of Karen's bucket list of seeing New England in the fall.

Karen was delighted to add another daughter-in-law to the family when Eric married Angela Dresch on June 9, 2009.

Karen's creativity blossomed as a young girl. She loved creating! When the family would go shopping in Hastings, her mom always made sure they would sneak away to Dick's Hobby and Crafts Store so she could buy a new kit to make new projects.

Her creative dreams came true when she was hired by Elaine Westring in 1981 to help her in the design department. She learned about putting silk flowers together, which has always been her first love. Karen worked for Elaine and Jim Westring for 12 years until they closed their store. In 1997 Karen opened her own store on Main Street in Geneva called Silks and Such. In 1998, Janet Bartak asked her to come to work with her at Geneva Floral. Karen was able to learn the fresh floral business from Janet. In 2005, she bought the business from Janet and moved back to Main Street. Her tiny shop flourished and in 2010 Harold and Karen opened a second store called A Little Inspiration filled with home decor and gifts.

Karen was a Christmas girl. Her home and farm were decorated with classic, traditional decor to accent their craftsman-style house. No corner was left without a little sparkle. It never bothered her to vacuum up a little glitter in the summer. She just smiled and knew Christmas was coming. She was a perfectionist at decorating, having been known to take all the decorations off her tree and start over. The year the Christmas tree was under the cross in the front of the church, there was an ornament that was out of place. After church, she put her robe away and went back up and put the ornament in the right place. When she turned around there was Ronnie Tatro standing in the middle of the aisle saying, "you just can't leave it alone, can you?!"

Her extended family was important to her. The Eich holiday was Thanksmas, obviously

derived from the combination of the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. Thanksmas at the Janda farm meant beautifully set tables, one in fall decor and the other in Christmas. The day together couldn't end without a spirited round of Pictionary, which got very loud and competitive.

Time spent with her grandchildren was always special. She was thrilled in July of 2017 that the whole family could be together in Colorado so she could take the grandkids to the North Pole for her 60th birthday! It was a wonderful time!

Karen was a member and past president of Chapter O PEO of Geneva. She was a lifelong member of the First Congregational United Church of Christ, having been baptized and confirmed there. She was a lifelong member of the Senior choir and Bell choir.

Karen was preceded in death by her parents and brother-in-law Dan Collins. She is survived by husband Harold Janda of Friend; son Eric Allgood and wife Angela of Henderson (Jackson and Jacy); son Aaron Allgood of Lincoln; stepson Paul Janda and wife Denee of Boulder, CO; stepson Adam Janda and wife Ellie of Goehner (Emaline, Gwendalyn, Agatha, and Harrison); sister Gail Chapman and husband Frank of York; sister Janene Collins of St. Joseph, MO; nephew Tony Chapman and wife Kerry of Grand Island (Addison, Olivia, and Ella); nephew Tyler Chapman and wife Latisha of Wichita, KS (Londyn, Sydney, and Liberty); nephew Derrick and wife Christy of Richmond, VA (River and August); and niece Adrienne Collins of Kansas City, MO.

A Funeral Service for Karen was held on Thursday, February 1, 2018 at 10:30 a.m. at the First Congregational United Church of Christ in Geneva. Pastor Stuart Davis officiated the service. Nancy Cradduck provided the prelude and postlude music. Adrienne Collins performed "What A Wonderful World" and "Over The Rainbow" and the Senior Church Choir performed "Eternal Praise." The recorded selections "A Life That's Good" and "Satin Doll" were also played.

Pallbearers for the service included Tony Chapman, Tyler Chapman, Mike Homyak, Tom Clouse, Rex Hinrichs, and Larry Messman. Honorary bearers included Max Hinrichs, Vaughn Hinrichs, Gary Hinrichs, Leroy Voss, Jeff Joe, Derrick Collins, and Sheldon Kohout. Interment was held in the Geneva Public Cemetery following the Funeral Service. Farmer & Son Funeral Home conducted the services and online condolences can be left at [www.farmerandsonfuneralhome.com](http://www.farmerandsonfuneralhome.com) Memorials are suggested to the First Congregational United Church Of Christ or Pediatric Oncology.

# Tribute Wall

MN

“ I WAS SO VERY SORRY TO HEAR ABOUT KARENS PASSING, WE ALL KNOW WHAT A WONDERFUL PERSON SHE WAS AND ALWAYS HAD A SMILE AND KIND WORD FOR EVERYONE. I REMEMBER ALL YOU THREE GIRLS AND OUR FAMILIY DOING THINGS TOGHTHER ON THE FARM. KAREN IS SINGING THE LORDS PRAISE IN HEAVEN FOR EVERYONE THAT KNOWS HER UP THEIR. GOD'S BLESSINGS TO ALL YOU. MADOLENE BLANKE NEUBAUER. BEDFORD TEXAS.

MADOLENE NEUBAUER - February 04, 2018 at 12:35 PM

JD

“ Jim & Irene Dresch lit a candle in memory of Karen Beth Janda



Jim & Irene Dresch - February 01, 2018 at 06:45 PM

PC

“ Peggy Casey lit a candle in memory of Karen Beth Janda



peggy casey - February 01, 2018 at 01:28 PM

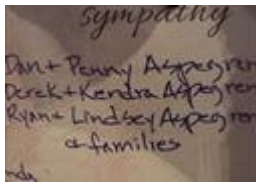
PC

*A beautiful lady, a blessing to know.*

peggy casey - February 01, 2018 at 01:30 PM



“ 98 files added to the album Flower Pictures



Farmer & Son Funeral Home - February 01, 2018 at 01:11 PM



“ Our condolences to Karen's family. She was a wonderful lady and will be missed. Bill and Cyndy McPherson

Cyndy McPherson - February 01, 2018 at 09:18 AM



“ Norm has enjoyed delivering flowers for Karen & Harold and has valued their friendship. Karen was such a kind lady and will be missed. I will miss her smile & visiting with her.



Renae & Norman Marks - January 31, 2018 at 11:44 PM



“ Lyndsey Kottas lit a candle in memory of Karen Beth Janda



Lyndsey Kottas - January 31, 2018 at 10:33 PM



“ Such a kind soul!



Robin Galusha - January 31, 2018 at 04:57 PM

JE

“ *Joni Ewalt lit a candle in memory of Karen Beth Janda*



**Joni Ewalt** - January 31, 2018 at 04:17 PM

SS

“ *Steve And Barb Sadd lit a candle in memory of Karen Beth Janda*



**Steve and Barb Sadd** - January 31, 2018 at 04:08 PM

LL

“ *Lori And Glen Loontjer lit a candle in memory of Karen Beth Janda*



**Lori and Glen Loontjer** - January 31, 2018 at 03:38 PM

KS

“ *Kevin & Kathy Spicka lit a candle in memory of Karen Beth Janda*



**Kevin & Kathy Spicka** - January 31, 2018 at 02:33 PM

GR

“ *Condolences to Karen's family - she was so positive, energetic and inclusive. I went though school in Geneva with Karen and remember cheerleading with her; many great memories of these times. How lucky I am to have known her!*

**Gina Roter** - January 31, 2018 at 12:51 PM

TG

“ *Tricia Galusha lit a candle in memory of Karen Beth Janda*



Tricia Galusha - January 31, 2018 at 11:37 AM

HF

“ *Holly Rippe & Doug Fischer lit a candle in memory of Karen Beth Janda*



Holly Rippe & Doug Fischer - January 31, 2018 at 11:09 AM

AH

“ *Angela Hiatt lit a candle in memory of Karen Beth Janda*



Angela Hiatt - January 31, 2018 at 11:08 AM

MO

“ *Marla Ourada lit a candle in memory of Karen Beth Janda*

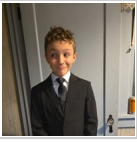


Marla Ourada - January 31, 2018 at 11:02 AM

CB

“ *She was so kind I'm gonna miss getting her opinion on flowers and when my husband would get me anniversary flowers every year she always made sure they were in an orange vase bc she new how much I would love it!!! Prayers to her family*

ciara burton - January 31, 2018 at 10:58 AM



“ *such a beautiful soul, miss her so much already.*



Brandie Conway - January 31, 2018 at 10:12 AM

CR

“ *Caleb Rippe lit a candle in memory of Karen Beth Janda*



Caleb Rippe - January 31, 2018 at 09:47 AM

CK

“ *A truly gracious and beautiful lady both inside and out. She will be sincerely missed especially that great big smile. My sympathy to all of the family for your loss. She will see you again!!*

cristy koch - January 31, 2018 at 12:53 AM



“ *Hope Karen is playing her sisters old tenor sax in the Herman Larsen Memorial Band in Heaven.....prayers to her family with butterfly kisses for all.*



Pat Souba Braun - January 30, 2018 at 11:43 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Karen Beth Janda.*



January 30, 2018 at 10:23 PM

MW

“ *Melea Walters lit a candle in memory of Karen Beth Janda*



Melea Walters - January 30, 2018 at 10:05 PM

LP

“ *LaDonna Pendleton lit a candle in memory of Karen Beth Janda*



LaDonna Pendleton - January 30, 2018 at 09:46 PM

PR

“ *My favorite memory of Karen is from about 13 years ago. It was Everett's and my 2nd wedding anniversary. Everett had decided with our first anniversary to give the traditional anniversary gift each year. For our second, the gift is supposed to be cotton. Sooo Karen make a red paper heart and covered it with cotton balls and stuck it in with the flowers in a vase. I laughed so hard. It was perfect and I'll never forget how caring she was in helping him each year trying to figure out what it should be.*

*I will miss her contagious laugh and beautiful smile. As someone else said in their tribute, heaven will be more beautiful than ever with Karen's sense of beauty and style. Love and prayers to all your family.*

*Everett and Patty*

patty roper - January 30, 2018 at 09:15 PM

JE

“ *Janet Burt Eggers lit a candle in memory of Karen Beth Janda*



Janet Burt Eggers - January 30, 2018 at 08:57 PM

LB

“ I am so saddened to hear of Karen's passing. My thoughts and prayers to the entire family. May your memories wrap you in comfort during the coming days.  
*Lorri Barbur Burns*

**Iorri Burns** - January 30, 2018 at 08:39 PM

MB

“ Fond memories of Klar from high school and the enthusiasm that she had for everything she was involved in. She carried that into her adult life which I only was able to observe periodically when visiting Geneva. Whenever I was in town I couldn't wait to visit her shop to see what new creations she was working on. She was a true inspiration to everyone she crossed paths with, and will be missed by all. Praying that her family finds comfort in all the kind words be spoken and may God surround you with His peace.

**Marcia Fahlberg Bond** - January 30, 2018 at 08:27 PM

MR

“ Mark & Sarah Reinsch lit a candle in memory of Karen Beth Janda



**Mark & Sarah Reinsch** - January 30, 2018 at 05:30 PM

TS

“ Tracy Dittmer Saathoff lit a candle in memory of Karen Beth Janda



**Tracy Dittmer Saathoff** - January 30, 2018 at 05:18 PM

KW

“ Dear Janene, Gail, and families,

*My thoughts and prayers are with you. I believe Heaven will be decorated beautifully with Karen in charge! Take care of yourselves.*

*Kathleen McCarthy Wilbeck*



**Kathleen McCarthy Wilbeck** - January 30, 2018 at 04:22 PM

CW

“ Catherine Reinsch and Mark Wilmoth purchased the Sapphire Skies Bouquet for the family of Karen Beth Janda.



Catherine Reinsch and Mark Wilmoth - January 30, 2018 at 03:41 PM

SA

“ I remember Karen mostly as a fun loving person. Karen and I hid in an upper cupboard in our Sunday school classroom from our teacher - Hugh Wilkins - who was also my mom's boss! :/ Let's just say our grand entrance back into the room with class in process was not appreciated by all... We laughed about that for years.

*I will miss Karen. We had so much fun growing up in the Congregational Church. She was a great leader, a kind person, a friend to all, and a blast to be around. She left a legacy of love for all of us to embrace. May God The Comforter be with you, family and friends, in these hard days.*

*Love, Sara Bailey Andreesen  
Classmate - Ord, NE*

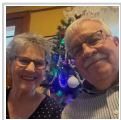
Sara Andreesen - January 30, 2018 at 03:06 PM



“ Rhonda Schlick lit a candle in memory of Karen Beth Janda



Rhonda Schlick - January 30, 2018 at 01:16 PM



*Karen was a very special woman. She will be missed by so many of us. Prayers for all of you.*

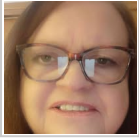
Rhonda Schlick - January 30, 2018 at 01:17 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Karen Beth Janda.*



January 30, 2018 at 12:37 PM



“ *Karen will be missed by so many, myself being one! Many memories of high school days and sleepovers at her home near Strang. She was a beautiful person inside and out! Blessings to her family and a much deserved peace to Karen!*



**Nancy Hansen** - January 30, 2018 at 12:26 PM

VR

“ *One special memory for me is when I was diagnosed with my cancer almost a year ago, and Karen reached out to me. She gave me a pendant with the word "Faith" on it. I wear it every single day, and think of her when I put it around my neck. Her beauty, kindness and compassion is something I will always remember. Rest in peace my friend. Vickie and Steve Roemmich.*

**Vickie Roemmich** - January 30, 2018 at 11:40 AM

JW

“ *Jim & Carlene Whitehead lit a candle in memory of Karen Beth Janda*



**Jim & Carlene Whitehead** - January 30, 2018 at 11:24 AM

CS

“ *Cheryl Reinsch Simonsen lit a candle in memory of Karen Beth Janda*



**Cheryl Reinsch Simonsen** - January 30, 2018 at 11:05 AM

RF

“ Always a friendly smile and warm greeting. Thinking of everyone during your time of sorrow and mourning.

*Ron Fritz*

Ron Fritz - January 30, 2018 at 10:12 AM

HK

“ Hilary Kassik lit a candle in memory of Karen Beth Janda



Hilary Kassik - January 30, 2018 at 09:55 AM

LN

“ Karen was such a wonderful, kind and talented person. She was loved and admired by many. Thoughts and prayers to Harold and family. Linda Lue Newell



Linda Lue Newell - January 30, 2018 at 09:33 AM

DK

“ Karen was one of the classiest ladies I have known. Heaven got another angel.  
-Denice Kovanda



Denice Kovanda - January 30, 2018 at 09:25 AM

BM

“ Brenda Motis lit a candle in memory of Karen Beth Janda



Brenda Motis - January 30, 2018 at 08:53 AM

MB

“ *Mary Brinkman lit a candle in memory of Karen Beth Janda*



**Mary Brinkman** - January 30, 2018 at 08:46 AM

BK

“ *We will miss Karen's always present smile, such a huge loss of a wonderful person. Prayers to Harold and all family.*

**Brad and Joline Krause** - January 30, 2018 at 08:45 AM

BW

“ *Barb Whitley lit a candle in memory of Karen Beth Janda*



**Barb Whitley** - January 30, 2018 at 08:12 AM

DE

“ *1 file added to the album Open House November 2017*



**Dee and Randy Erb** - January 29, 2018 at 11:30 PM

DB

“ *Karen was such a beautiful person--inside and out--and she brought so much beauty to all who knew her. From her friends to her customers, she had a smile, and used her many talents to brighten lives. Prayers for her family and all who mourn her passing, even as they rejoice in the end to her suffering and the beginning of her life with Jesus in heaven.*

**Deb Bixby** - January 29, 2018 at 11:20 PM

DK

“ *Dean And Laura Kassik lit a candle in memory of Karen Beth Janda*



dean and laura kassik - January 29, 2018 at 10:36 PM

VA

“ *Vicki Allgood lit a candle in memory of Karen Beth Janda*



Vicki Allgood - January 29, 2018 at 09:55 PM

AT

“ *Karen and I have been friends, practically as long as I can remember. We sang side by side in the choir for years. We have laughed many times about taking s breath at the same time, no matter what we were singing. Last year we planned the redecorating of the Church for Christmas, which was a dream that we both had for the Church we both loved. More recently we had some wonderful visits, laughing, crying and talking. I will miss her so much.*

Alice Tatro - January 29, 2018 at 09:55 PM



“ *Deepest and sincerest Sympathy to Karen's family. Please know we share in your loss and will be praying for strength, comfort and peace for you all at this very sad time and in the days to come. She will be missed....*



Terry Ann Brandt - January 29, 2018 at 09:51 PM

SL

“ *Sharon Lauber lit a candle in memory of Karen Beth Janda*



Sharon Lauber - January 29, 2018 at 09:47 PM

KW

“ Karen West lit a candle in memory of Karen Beth Janda



Karen West - January 29, 2018 at 06:46 PM

VA

“ Memories are filling my head, and hurting my heart as I think of them. So many laughs, cheers and tears through the years! RIP Klar!! Hugs to the boys and Harold.



Vicki Allgood - January 29, 2018 at 05:39 PM

DE

“ 4 files added to the album New Album Name



Dee and Randy Erb - January 29, 2018 at 05:24 PM

Virginia Johnson

“ Virginia Johnson lit a candle in memory of Karen Beth Janda



Virginia Johnson - January 29, 2018 at 05:03 PM

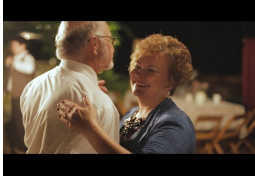
Virginia Johnson

My heart is heavy! My Thoughts and Prayers!

Virginia Johnson - January 29, 2018 at 05:56 PM

DC

“ 1 file added to the album Videos



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**Derrick Collins** - January 29, 2018 at 03:43 PM