



## Karen Austin

January 13, 1965 - March 1, 2018

Karen Austin, 53, of Mason City, passed away on Thursday (March 1, 2018) at the Muse Norris Hospice Inpatient Unit in Mason City, surrounded by her family.

In keeping with Karen's lifelong wishes, her body has been donated to the advancement of science and medicine through the Mayo Clinic Anatomical Bequest Program.

A Celebration of Karen's Life will be held at a future date with family and friends.

Memorials may be left in Karen's honor to Hospice of North Iowa or the Humane Society.

Karen Alane Austin was born on January 13, 1965 in Mason City, the daughter of John and Joan (Nack) Austin. She attended and graduated from Mason City High School.

At the age of 18 Karen was united in marriage to her high school sweetheart, Brad Rosenburger in Mason City. Together she and Brad looked forward to the arrival of their first child. Sadly, they instead suffered heartbreak when Baby Melinda did not survive her premature delivery, having only been 5 months gestation. The couple would go on to share many years together before eventually divorcing.

Karen continued to live in Mason City and a few years later met Jesse Marcotte, after a short engagement they were united in marriage in at The Little Brown Church in Nashua. Due to Jesse's job the couple had the opportunity to travel the United States throughout the years, and enjoyed taking in the different sights and scenery.

In her younger years, Karen worked at the County Market as a cashier and in the dairy department for many years. Later she worked at Goodwill industries, before she began traveling with Jesse.

Karen had a deep love for animals and oftentimes referred to her cats as her own children. Samuel, Gretchen, Lovebug, Max, and Tinker all held a special place in her heart.

In her free time she enjoyed flower gardening and nature, taking walks and spending time outdoors. She was known for her sweet tooth and was an exceptional baker; she will be remembered for her cookies, bars, and other treats.

Those grateful in sharing in her life are her siblings, Catherine (William) DeRoos, Rockwell, David (Mary) Austin, Mason City, Roger Austin, Connecticut, and Shelly Van Ness and fiancé, Brian Claussen, Rockwell; 15 nieces, and nephews; 20 great nieces and nephews; and 1 great great nephew.

She is preceded in death by her parents; daughter, Melinda; sister, Teresa Austin Lugar; sister in law, Sue Austin; niece, Rachel Austin; and two of her beloved dog, Peanut, and cat, Sir Lancelot.

Karen's memory will be cherished by her many family members and friends.

# Comments

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“ I was Karen's mailman for years. I will never forget her sense of humor and her larger than life laugh. She had such a wonderful spirit, She will be missed.

**Doug Bohl** - March 07, 2018 at 08:17 PM

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“ Linda Lewis lit a candle in memory of Karen Austin



**Linda Lewis** - March 05, 2018 at 07:51 PM

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“ I was shocked to hear of Karen's passing. I have known her for a long time. My condolences to her family. May she R I P.



**Luella Duenow-Scholl** - March 05, 2018 at 02:30 PM

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“ I was saddened to hear of Karen's passing. You all lived in our neighborhood on 29th Street. She will be missed!! God Bless you all. Kim (Christian) Frank



**Kim Frank** - March 05, 2018 at 06:18 AM

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“ Bev Lybarger lit a candle in memory of Karen Austin



**Bev Lybarger** - March 04, 2018 at 05:28 PM