



Karen Rae Nelson

JUL 7, 1943 - JAN 24, 2026



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Karen Rae Nelson

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Karen Rae Nelson July 7, 1943 – January 24, 2026

Karen Rae Nelson, beloved wife, mother, grandmother, great grandmother, and friend passed away peacefully surrounded by the love of her family on January 24, 2026. Born on July 7, 1943, Karen brought light and warmth to every life she touched.

In 1959, she married the love of her life, Steve Nelson. Together they shared 63 beautiful years of marriage, building a life rooted in devotion, creativity, and family. They were blessed with four sons, each a reflection of Karen's strength, kindness, and unwavering love.

Karen was a gifted artist, especially in sculpting, and a passionate gardener. She found joy in creating beauty — in her art, in her garden, and in the lives of those around her. Her greatest masterpiece was the family she nurtured: her children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren, each of whom carry her spirit forward.

She was known not only for her talents and her love of nature, but for her deep generosity and friendship. Karen had a way of making everyone feel seen, heard, and cherished. Her home was a haven, her heart a compass, and her presence a gift.

Karen was preceded in death by her parents, Winona and Raymond Boyakin, her husband, Steve, her brothers Randi, Rory, and her beloved son, Michael.

She is survived by her three sons, Todd (Robyn), Cory and Shaun (Shannon), along with her beloved grandchildren, Coleson, Ashton, Steven, Dillon, Sabra, Justice, Adam, Michael, and Benny along with her 3 great grandchildren; Killian, Rilynn Jaymes and Eden. She will be remembered for her laughter, her wisdom, and the quiet strength with which she lived. Her legacy lives on in the art she created the gardens she grew, and the family she built.

A celebration of Karen's life will be held on February 21, 2026, from 1:00–3:00 p.m. at The Latter-Day Saints Church, 4484 West Willoughby Drive, South Jordan, Utah.



Tribute Wall

Karen Rae Nelson
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Teresa Francis shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

I remember Karen telling us about when she and our cousins would have so much fun sliding down the coal chute at Grandma's house. Karen could make any activity fun. The picture is of Karen with our cousins and our Grandma Esther in about 1951.



February 19 at 12:29 PM



Teresa Francis posted:

I remember Karen telling us about when she was little she and our cousins used to have so much fun sliding down the coal chute at grandma's house. Karen was always one for making things fun for everyone. This is a picture of Karen with our Grandma Esther and our cousins in about 1951.

February 19 at 12:22 PM



Lolly Stull posted:

I remember traveling to Karen and Steve house so Karen could do my mother's (Laurel) hair. I remember swimming in their community pool with Todd and Michael. Karen always made me laugh ! When she came here to Michigan with my mother Laurel she gave my husband the nickname "Archie Bunker". Always laughing! Hugs to Todd, Corey and Shaun from us ! Lolly (Eaton) and Dave Stull and family P.S. i always though Karen looked more like my mother than me with her skinny nose...

February 15 at 5:45 PM



Media

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Teresa Francis shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

February 19 at 12:29 PM





Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Karen by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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