



Karen Louise Klinghagen was born on November 19, 1947, in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and was lovingly adopted by Rudy C. and Carol L. Bredeson of Willmar, Minnesota. She was raised in a caring home and graduated from Willmar High School with the Class of 1965. Some of Karen's happiest childhood memories were made at the family cabin on Green Lake, where she developed a lifelong love of the water and outdoors.

On August 15, 1969, Karen married Dean L. Klinghagen, and together they raised four children. Though their marriage later ended, the family they created remained a cherished part of Karen's life.

For more than 20 years, Karen enjoyed driving school bus, caring for the children she transported and watching generations of students grow. She took pride in keeping them safe and became a cherished friend to many children and families.

Karen was a gifted and creative woman who loved quilting, sewing, knitting, crafts, plants, and flowers. She especially enjoyed making quilts for her grandchildren when they graduated from high school. These handmade gifts became treasured reminders of her love.

For 35 years, Larry and Karen shared a special friendship and companionship. They enjoyed traveling, visiting family, and making memories together. Larry was "Grandpa Larry" and truly part of the family.

Karen enjoyed the simple things—playing cards with family and friends, caring for her plants, being near the water, and, of course, keeping a hidden stash of chocolate chips close by.

She was independent, creative, spirited, determined, and wonderfully human. Her greatest legacy is the love she had for her family and the memories she created. She took great pride in watching each generation grow, and her family will carry her story—and the many cherished "Grandma Karen" stories—with them always. She will be deeply missed and forever loved.

Karen is survived by her four children, Pete (Carolyn) Klinghagen, Shawn Klinghagen, Jennifer (Wade) Ericson, and Sheila (Gabe) Brown 11 grandchildren, Austin Klinghagen, Arianna (Aaron) Valiant, Destiny (Alex) Skoglund, Bailey (Jacob) Fink, Lauren (Mitch) Berghuis, Olivia Hagen, Emily Ericson, Marlene Ericson, Tyler Brown, Zach Brown, and Tory Brown; and 12 great-grandchildren, Braylin and Cash Valiant, Sullivan Skoglund, Ellieah, Addalyn and Braxton Fink, Tommy and Mike Berghuis, Gavin Brown, Elise, Evelyn and Paul Haymaker; besides other relatives and many friends.

Karen was preceded in death by her parents, her brother, John Bredeson, and nieces Robin and Stacey, along with other beloved family members.



Celebrating the Life of



Karen Klinghagen

1947 — 2026

In Loving Memory Of

Karen L. Klinghagen

November 19, 1947

August 12, 2026

Minneapolis, Minnesota

St. Cloud, Minnesota

Twenty-Third Psalm

The Lord is my Shepherd: I shall not want...

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:

He leadeth me beside the still waters...

*He restoreth my soul: He leadeth me in the paths
of righteousness for His name's sake...*

*Yea, though I walk through the valley of
the shadow of death, I will fear no evil:
for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff,
they comfort me. Thou preparest a table
before me in the presence of mine
enemies: Thou anointest my head with oil;
my cup runneth over...*

*Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life: and I will dwell in
the house of the Lord forever.*

Celebration of Life Service

Wednesday, August 19, 2026 - 3:00 p.m.

Peterson Brothers Funeral Home

Willmar, Minnesota

Gathering

Apostolic Greeting & Prayer

Song "Amazing Grace" Carrie Underwood (cd)

Family Remembrances

Scripture Readings Larry Atkinson

Song "Jesus Loves Me" CeCe Winans (cd)

Meditation Pastor Amy Juel

Song "You Are My Sunshine" Sarah Dinan (cd)

Apostle's Creed, Prayers & The Lord's Prayer

Song "The Old Rugged Cross" Alan Jackson (cd)

Commendation

Dismissal

*Following this service please join the family
for a time of fellowship and light lunch*