



WAKE SERVICE

Thursday, March 16, 2023 and Friday, March 17, 2023
Margaret Henderson Parish Hall, Opaskwayak, MB

FUNERAL SERVICE

Saturday, March 18, 2023 1:00 pm
Church of the Redeemer, Opaskwayak, MB
Presider: Rev. Gloria Lavallee
Music Ministry: Russell Cook Memorial Singers

RECEPTION

Immediately following this service at the Margaret
Henderson Parish Hall.

*In lieu of flowers, donations to
The Pas and Area Animal Shelter Inc.,
PO Box 4079, The Pas, MB, R9A 1S2,
would be appreciated by Karen's family.*



Hemauer Funeral Home, The Pas, Manitoba

www.hemauerfuneralhome.com

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*In Loving Memory of
Karen Rita Kostyk
(nee Constant)*

March 19, 1959—March 10, 2023



Karen Rita Kostyk (nee: Constant)

was born Thursday, March 19, 1959, to Edna and Tony Constant, in The Pas, Manitoba. She was the youngest child of 6.

Mom spent the early years of her life in a little house across the tracks near Umpherville settlement where she lived with her siblings and her parents. In 1965 the family moved to town side on Lathlin Avenue. One of mom's favorite memories was going to her dad's trapline out at Root Lake with her family and family friends. She often spoke of wanting to go back and to sleep in a tent outside. Aunt Gloria shared that all the kids looked forward to their "treat" while they were at the trapline; ice

cream. Uncle Carl would get ice from the river nearby and Grandma would mix her ingredients to make her own homemade ice cream.

Unfortunately, late in 1967, Grandma and Grandpa went their separate ways. Mom, Aunt Gloria, and Uncle Ray lived with their Aunt's near the tracks while Grandpa always made sure to make time to visit.

On March 17, 1968, 2 days before Mom's 9th birthday, she lost an integral part of her life; her dad was tragically killed in an accident. This devastated Mom as she was a "daddy's girl". Mom would continue to live with her Aunt's, siblings, and cousins, and later they moved to Young Point. Mom was always close with Uncle Ray as he lived nearby and kept an eye on his baby sister.

In 1978 Mom didn't know it at the time but she met her soul mate, Ken, at the Avenue Hotel. This would be the starting point of their lifelong journey together.

On November 7, 1979, Mom and Dad were blessed with their first child; a beautiful hazel eyed boy, James Anthony. A few months after James was born, Dad was offered employment in Flin Flon so the family relocated. Later that year, Mom and Dad decided to build a solid family foundation by committing to one another and getting married. The family went back to The Pas to celebrate with family, and on September 20, 1980, Mom and Dad made it official. A few months later, they were blessed with their second child; a beautiful baby girl, Tiffany Robin, on December 16, 1980. Mom spent her days being a stay-at-home mom while the kids were young. Once they were a bit older, she would go on to work in the kitchen and housekeeping at the Kelsey Trail Motor Inn (now Victoria Inn). On her first day of work Mom surprised the owner of the Inn by making perogies by hand, this led to her gaining full time employment.

On May 22, 1988, Mom and Dad were blessed with their third and final child; a second beautiful baby girl, Samantha May. After spending 8 years in the Flin Flon area, Dad moved to Snow Lake for work and our family would follow shortly after. A few months later, our family relocated to The Pas as the town was too small for Mom.

Our first home was the Timberland Trailer Court until 1991, when Mom and Dad returned to where it all began; the Avenue Hotel. This is where

Mom and Dad would go on to raise their family, manage the hotel and build lifelong relationships for 29 years of their life. They filled not only their home but the whole building with so much love throughout the years they lived there; with their children, grandchildren, family, friends, tenants, customers, vendors and Don and Linda. Mom made relationships that would last a lifetime, she even gained extra "kids, nieces and nephews" throughout the years. It was normal for people we have never seen before greeting Mom with a "hi mom!". Mom cherished everyone she met.

Mom's passion was sewing and her beadwork. She was taught at a young age by her late Aunts, Gilla and Monie. She did her best to accommodate her customers' needs and always made sure they knew they could return for any repairs (which were rarely needed!). Her work has gone all over the world; from both sides of Canada, various states, and overseas. People were always surprised when they found out all her work was done by hand. You would never find a sewing machine in her beading room!

Mom's kindness and generosity was felt through every person she encountered whether it be through her customers at the Avenue, customers of her craft sales or just a stranger in need. Mom was always willing to help in any way she could and would often put other needs before her own. Mom's heart was always in the right place, and it showed through her faith.

After a courageous battle with esophageal cancer, Mom passed away on Friday, March 10, 2023, at home with family by her side, age 63 years old.

We would like to send special appreciation to Dr. Noel and Bev at Cancer Care for always taking care of our mom and our nurse Jana for helping not only Mom but all of us through this journey. We could not have done this without you's.

Mom will be greatly missed by her soulmate Ken; her children; Tiffany and Sam (Cal); grandchildren Darian, Dre, Dexter, CJ and Bobbi; siblings Gloria (Roland), Carl (Judy), Raymond (Linda), and Walter (Debbie); numerous nieces and nephews; in-laws Elaine, Carol and Larry, the Burns family, Sylvia (Albert) and family, the Young family; numerous other relatives, and all the "family" she made along the way.

Mom was pre-deceased by her son James; parents Edna and Anthony Constant; in-laws Albertine and Fred Kostyk; infant sibling Edward; sisters-in-law Shelly Garton and Barb Kostyk; brothers-in-law Jack Kostyk, Albert Fogh, Tom Heape and Brian Garton; niece Nadine Steiner; nephews Tony Constant and Matthew Stevens; and her guardian angel, Aunt Gilla. Many aunts, uncles, cousins, and extended family, too numerous to mention.

