



Karen S. Allen

July 12, 1954 - July 17, 2025

Karen Sue Allen, age 71 of Clare, passed away Thursday, July 17, 2025 at the MyMichigan Medical Center in Alma. Karen was born the daughter of the late Stanley and Eleanor (Clark) Vought on July 12, 1954 in Midland. She was united in marriage to Jerry Lee Allen on September 13, 1975. Jerry preceded her in death on March 11, 2017.

Karen's passion was childcare and children's education. She and her late husband operated Wee Care Child Care out of her home for many years starting in 1989; they touched the lives of numerous young children, many of which Karen kept in contact with over the years. She was also a Certified Play Advisor for Discovery Toys, a job she was passionate about. Karen was an active member of the Clare Rebekah's Lodge, having most recently served as the President. She was a member of the Baha'i Faith, which was very important to her.

Karen is survived by her sisters, Donna Vought, Barb Merchant and Linda Smades, her nephew Wiley Sheall, as well as the enumerable number of children that were in her care over many treasured years. Her passion and devotion to all her "kids" will live far beyond her time here on Earth.

Services will take place on Friday, July 25, 2025 at the Stephenson-Wyman Funeral Home. Visitation will be held from 11:00 am until the time of service at

1:00 pm; burial will take place at the Cherry Grove Cemetery immediately following the service. On-line condolences may be left at www.stephenson-wyman.com.

Cemetery Details

Cherry Grove Cemetery

1000 Cedar St.
Clare, MI 48617

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 25. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Stephenson - Wyman Funeral Home (Clare)
1005 North McEwan St.
Clare, MI 48617
(989) 386-7451
wymanhf@chartermi.net
<https://www.stephenson-wyman.com/>

Service

JUL 25. 1:00 PM (ET)

Stephenson - Wyman Funeral Home (Clare)
1005 North McEwan St.
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Tribute Wall



“ *Judy lit a candle in memory of Karen S. Allen*



Judy - November 02, 2025 at 10:35 PM



My life was so much more because of Karen and Jerry and all the adventures we had.

Judy - November 02, 2025 at 10:40 PM

“ REMEMBERING OUR SISTER KAREN ALLEN

from Prisca & Alan Gamble and friends of the MI-04 Baha'i Faith Community

We had the wonderful opportunity to meet dear Karen and her husband Jerry a little over 3 decades ago. Karen and Jerry would faithfully join the group of 8 to 12 friends (children included) who gathered at Pary & Hugh Motlagh's Mt Pleasant home for meaningful discussions, learning, and prayers.

Karen believed in the tremendous potential of one of humanity's most precious gifts and treasures – children and youth – yours, mine, and everyone else's. Karen's Wee Care Child Care of ___ years attests to her desire and selfless work nurturing our community's youngest and most malleable members, toward their becoming strong pillars of society bearing seeds of friendship, joy, gratitude, generosity open-mindedness across what may be perceived as barriers to relationship building. She directly and faithfully nurtured the “flowering of a whole new civilization” as promised in the writings of Baha'u'llah – Founder of the Baha'i Faith, whose messages Karen embraced wholeheartedly.

We found Karen to be an astute learner as well as a teacher. She was caring, compassionate, insightful, and both saw and sought the best in others. Karen exemplified a joyful and hopeful spirit, especially when with the little ones. To us, she expressed joy upon hearing of the probability of her discharge from MyMichigan Hospital in Alma on July 11, the day before her 71st birthday. Oh, how she wanted to celebrate!

Karen will be deeply missed by her sisters and extended family, numerous “kids” from childcare she served directly, the Baha'i community, Rebekahs, and so many others – many of whom are gathered here today.

We feel honored and blessed to have known and served a portion

of humanity with such a humble soul. We pray the seeds of hope, gratitude and the many other virtues sown will continuously grow in our hearts as we bloom into human flowers serving all who may cross our path with dignity and love, regardless of any perceived difference.

May Karen's light continue to radiate and shine brightly as she moves on to even more Sacred Spaces towards attaining the Presence of her Maker. And may the twinkling spark in her eyes remain in our memory and hearts.

~posted by Prisca

Prisca Gamble - August 14, 2025 at 05:33 PM

CB

“ *What a lovely service for Karen Allen. It was a beautiful expression of love. Thank you to Kate, Lee, the Rebekah's and staff of Stephenson-Wyman.*

Cheri Buchbinder - July 30, 2025 at 07:37 AM

TI

“ *RIP Karen. We made some good times together. So sorry to hear.*



Tiffani - July 24, 2025 at 04:21 PM

AG

This is truly a remarkable picture Tiffani, with light radiating from your eyes, smiles and above Karen's hat. Thanks for sharing!

Alan Gamble - July 25, 2025 at 10:06 AM

TG

“ Karen has been a very special person to me as she has been for countless others. She used to brag about me being her first child to babysit, as I was the first kid her and Jerry would watch, then my cousins, then the inspiration for their journey into daycare. I feel so blessed to have been this child and my memories are flooding in this week of that special time. I also have many memories of our time together through my first job as a daycare assistant as well as IOOF memberships in Clare Theta Rho girls club Iris Belles and Clara Rebekah lodge as well. I know life has many obstacles that drew me a separate way as time went on but I will always cherish Karen and her unique and eclectic love of life. I'm sure she is having the most colorful and joyful time in heaven with Jerry. Thoughts to all who loved her. She will be missed.

Traci Goldsworthy - July 24, 2025 at 11:09 AM



“ The time I knew her.. we were buddies right off! She was open and friendly!! I'll Miss her!!



Robert Camp - July 22, 2025 at 05:42 PM

RK

“ Karen was a beautiful person in every way. So kind and giving. My wife Judy and I had the opportunity for many years to work with her on the Board of Directors of the Oddfellow-Rebekah Camp of Michigan, Tall Oaks. She loved serving the children, and the children loved her back. For a long time Karen was the youth advisor to the girls of the Irish Belles Theta Rho group. She made a great difference in these young ladies lives. What a pleasure Karen was, and our friendship grew more across time. Dearly missed but never forgotten. Rest in peace.

*Bob Kowalski
Mesick, Michigan*

Robert L. Kowalski - July 22, 2025 at 05:56 AM

CS

Karen was a very "special" sister to the Rebekahs. Our Michigan Rebekah Assembly President will be truly missed by all. Sincere sympathy to her family and many friends.

Connie Strouse - July 23, 2025 at 07:21 AM

JN

Met Karen through the Rebekah's. She brought her Theta Rho girls to camp when I the other Karen Allen enjoy Ed being around her. She truly would do anything for anybody. I really enjoyed being around her. Karen Allen and Janice Nye.

Janice Nye - July 24, 2025 at 07:01 AM

AG

“ 1 file added to the album Photos of Karen



Alan & Prisca Gamble - July 18, 2025 at 07:22 PM

TI

A beautiful picture Karen and I took together enjoying ourselves outside. To bad I was cut out

Tiffani - July 24, 2025 at 04:19 PM

AG

Sorry Tiffani. That was me, unintentionally cutting you out in order to get a "better" picture of just Karen to use. It's our favorite picture, so glad you were able to add the original back into comments above.

Alan Gamble - July 25, 2025 at 10:04 AM

JH

My friend,my mentor of so many..many..things in life, as well as Jerry. Great times and great fun. Sad moments we helped each other past.I took awhile to write this...still feel like I missed all I want to say. At times we had disputes like siblings! Only to laugh and make up. When I moved to Iowa and She had lost Jerry and I my husband Dean passed .We seemed to lose touch by distance, life and then illness for us both. She and Jerry were important parts of Dean and I lives. And very much a part of our children Mitch and Cassie. They have many tales to tell....Thank you for your friendship, guidance when needed. For allll... the fun!!! Pig dog will be glad to see you both. Love from my heart always. Judy , your Rebekah Sister, friend. Dean, Mitch,and Cassie. Hales

Judy Hales - August 07, 2025 at 02:41 PM