



Karen C. Dings

March 15, 1948 - April 16, 2021

Karen Christine Dings, 73, of Havana passed away on Friday, April 16, 2021 at 5:32 p.m. at her home. She was born on March 15, 1948 in LaHarpe, Illinois to Harvey Edward and Helen Christine (Smock) Carle. She married Jackie Lee Murphy on May 20, 1966 in Marietta, Illinois. She later married Minton Phelps Dings on September 13, 2008 in Canton, Illinois.

Karen was the mother to Ronald Eric (Deanna) Murphy of Havana, Richard Matthew Murphy, Jeremy Dings of LaCross, Wisconsin, Justin (Angel) Dings of Canton, and over one hundred foster children she welcomed to her home. She is also survived by her mother, sisters, Joanne (J.D.) Shipman of Webster, Elaine Root of Colchester, and Lou Ann (Joe) Pence of Carthage, brothers, Jerry (Cathy) Carle of Gresham, Oregon, and Donnie (Candy) Carle of Nauvoo. Also surviving are two grandchildren, Trey Murphy and Tayler (Kirk) Pellhum and many nieces, nephews, and other extended family. She was preceded in death by her father and one brother, Edward Carle.

Karen was a 1966 graduate of Cuba High School in Cuba, Illinois. She worked for Timex in Abilene, Texas, Cress Enterprises in Brimfield, and Mason District Hospital in Havana.

She enjoyed gardening, baking, and spending time with family, but what gave her the greatest joy was bringing a smile to someone's face. She often baked cookies or treats and randomly surprised lucky recipients. Karen also liked crocheting stocking caps and donating them to young people in need. She didn't judge one's imperfections, their past, their frailties, or their economic

status, but instead loved everyone equally without limits.

The family will hold a private graveside ceremony. Per her wishes, a Celebration of Life will be planned in the future when social gatherings are considered safe for all attending.

Memorial donations may be made in Karen's name to Illinois Cancer Care or St. Jude Children's Hospital. Online condolences can be left for the family at www.hurleyfh.com.

Hurley Funeral Home in Havana is in charge of arrangements.

Tribute Wall



“ Karen C. Dings

October 12, 2022 at 03:07 PM



“ Sending heartfelt condolences and prayers for peace during this difficult time. I am honored and blessed to have known Karen as she was one of the most thoughtful, giving and loving people I have ever known. Her kindness and unconditional love is unmatched. May loving memories comfort each of you during this difficult time - and may God Bless her.



Diane McKeever - April 27, 2021 at 10:08 AM



“ So sorry for your family's loss!



Elva Stigall - April 26, 2021 at 12:02 PM



“ What a sweet person, you will be missed. We were your neighbors in the green house on Pearl. Always so nice to Ed and I. God bless and our deepest sympathy. Ed & Debbie Britton

Deb and Ed Britton - April 24, 2021 at 06:23 PM

MB

“ We're so sorry for your loss. Your mother was a very lovely lady.

Mark and carol buchanan - April 24, 2021 at 02:38 PM

KE

“ So sorry to hear this.



Karen Elliott - April 24, 2021 at 02:19 PM

JC

“ Karen was my Cousin.. She was the most Generous, AMAZING, CARING and BEAUTIFUL. I will miss her sweet voice,, YES, She was ANGEL and now has her WINGS. GOD SPEED KAREN. I LOVE YOU.

judy smith Karen's Cousin. - April 23, 2021 at 11:26 AM

JP

“ Janice Potter lit a candle in memory of Karen C. Dings



Janice Potter - April 23, 2021 at 09:41 AM

CS

“ Karen came into my life, when I was a young child in need. She gave me unconditional love and patience. She was the kindest person I've ever known! You will forever be a part of me and I will always cherish you. The best mother a young girl could have!! I love you, Rest in Peace beautiful soul

Carla Baker Stine - April 22, 2021 at 05:56 PM

JM

“ Josh, Joanna, Addyson, Nola and Callie Murphy purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Karen C. Dings.



Josh, Joanna, Addyson, Nola and Callie Murphy - April 22, 2021 at 04:08 PM

AL

“ She was a good lady I have known her since the 1980's.

Aaron Larson - April 22, 2021 at 08:11 AM



“ Yellow Sunflowers (Silk Cemetery Flowers) was purchased for the family of Karen C. Dings.



April 21, 2021 at 04:45 PM

LH

“ *Larry And Mary Hundt lit a candle in memory of Karen C. Dings*



Larry and Mary Hundt - April 21, 2021 at 07:48 AM



“ *So sorry for your loss* 💔



Nancy Elliott - April 21, 2021 at 07:41 AM

LM

“ *Thank you Karen for always being such a fun, loving, and caring sister-in-law. I will always remember the fun times we shared with you at Mrs. Smith's and hanging out with the Smock family. Heaven has a new Angel. Rest in peace.*

Linda Murphy - April 20, 2021 at 05:24 PM

MG

“ *Marcie Ganson lit a candle in memory of Karen C. Dings*



Marcie Ganson - April 20, 2021 at 02:42 PM

DD

“ *Damon, Marcie & Deagan purchased the Guiding Light Bouquet for the family of Karen C. Dings.*



Damon, Marcie & Deagan - April 20, 2021 at 02:41 PM

KR

“ *Kim Russell lit a candle in memory of Karen C. Dings*



Kim Russell - April 20, 2021 at 01:52 PM

PK

“ *We worked together at mason district and became friends and I will always love her and miss her. She taught me how to crochet and gave me gardening tips and she always brought some yummy treats for us all to share while we where working. She will be in our hearts and memories forever as she was truely an angel.*

Patty kuhlman - April 20, 2021 at 01:45 PM

DW

“ *Sorry for your loss Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family*



Dan and Chris Wilson - April 20, 2021 at 01:14 PM

BC

So sorry to see this. She has a wonderful woman

Becky Conway - April 20, 2021 at 06:59 PM

JS

Karen was the best first sister!! We miss her so much already! God gave her wings!! She deserves them, as she was so giving and shared love where she went. I love you sister # 1!!!!

Joan Shipman - April 21, 2021 at 11:17 AM

LT

“ *So sorry for your family's loss! Great mentor of mine during my foster care experience* ❤️



Lisa Jill Ulrich Thompson - April 20, 2021 at 12:45 PM