



Karen Beth Zimmerman

August 18, 1965 - February 20, 2021

Karen Beth Zimmerman, 55, of Waldorf, Maryland, passed away at the MedStar Southern Maryland Hospital Center in Clinton after a year-long and courageous battle with pancreatic cancer.

Born on August 18, 1965 in Norristown, Pennsylvania, she is the daughter of Judy Dennis and the late Murray Dennis. Karen graduated Easton (PA) High School and later attended Penn State and the University of Wisconsin, earning her Master's Degree. She was a Speech Therapist for Genesis Rehabilitation Center for many years. Throughout her life, Karen played tennis and soccer, enjoyed cooking, sang with the Choral Arts Society of Philadelphia, supported her children's pursuits with the Waldorf Soccer Club, was very active with her sons in Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts, and was a true "Hockey Mom" with the Southern Maryland Sabres and Charles County Cougars hockey teams.

In addition to her mother Judy, Karen is survived by her husband of 23 years, Eric Zimmerman; sons Andy Zimmerman and Matthew Zimmerman; sister Jill Dennis and her significant other Antonio; brother-in-law Jason Zimmerman; numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, and other relatives and friends.

Due to the circumstances of the COVID-19 Pandemic, services are pending in hope that a Celebration of Karen's Life will be possible in the future.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in Karen's name to the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network, www.pancan.org, 1500 Rosecrans Avenue, Suite 200, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266.

Condolences and memories may be made on Karen's Tribute Wall.

Tribute Wall



“ *Karen Beth Zimmerman*

October 08, 2023 at 10:45 PM



“ *Karen Beth Zimmerman*

October 04, 2023 at 03:12 PM

KH

“ It's taken me a while to come here and post something. I have struggled with truly understanding Karen has passed. She was such a light in this crazy life. I never knew Karen without a smile. Even in the difficult times, she'd end a conversation with a smile and make light of whatever was wrong. I met Karen through Boy Scouts, many years ago. Right away, she stepped up to volunteer. And when I say volunteer, I'm not talking about a day trip. She took the big things on, always making them look easy. She loved her family, and was there for them, every breath she took. But she never forgot her other family or friends. She wanted to enjoy life with the ones who mattered.... and she sure did that, devoting her days to them all (even in her work). She was real, to the core. And WOW could she whip up some amazing foods! A couple years back, we were talking about how we met our husbands. When she spoke about her and Eric getting together, she was actually giddy... I mean, she giggled! It was just adorable, and beautiful, how much she loved him. As for her two amazing sons.... well... as a mom myself, I know she's up there watching over them, pushing them to keep moving forward, and to be whoever they want to be in this life. She was so incredibly proud of them, and her love for them shows in the young men they've become. I love and miss you, Karen! And know, even though this message is two months after you passed, you are, and will always be here in our hearts and thoughts.... Karen Landgraf Harnly

Karen Landgraf Harnly - April 19, 2021 at 10:28 AM

DA

“ Karen was a member of Troop 1780 for a number of years, she and Eric stayed active even after Andy and Matt made Eagle Scout. They spent their time insuring others in the troop had the same support as her boys. The last time I was with her and Eric they joined the troop for a day hike and she handled it as well as any one else there. That was the reason I was so shocked to hear that she had passed.

Eric , Andy and Matt we are so sorry to hear of your lose, please let us know if there is anything we can do to help.

Dave & Debbie Amadei - March 02, 2021 at 07:03 PM

ST

“ I have been struggling to write this for days now. How do you put 47 years' worth of memories into a short paragraph? Birthdays, Passovers, Hanukkahs, New Years Days, Christmas Eves, Thanksgivings, 4th of Julys, baby showers, bridal showers, weddings, bar and bat mitzvahs, graduations, eagle scout ceremonies. You name it we were always together, with you, the big cousin, the old of us six leading the charge. Such an amazing strong woman and role model every day of your life. A wonderful mother, wife, daughter, sister cousin, and friend. As the saying goes, “Her memory will always be a blessing to us.” Eric, Andy, Matt, Aunt Judy, and Antonio, I can't wait for us to be together again soon. All my love, Stacy



Stacy Tippens - February 28, 2021 at 04:19 PM

SK

“ I never had the luck to meet Karen personally. That is my loss as everything that I have heard about her is good. May she rest in peace and may God grant solace to her family, my cousin Eric, and their two sons.

Scott Kilhefner - February 26, 2021 at 06:05 PM



“ Eric and Karen began dating when I was a teenager. She was an influential part of my childhood and was always there for me when my mother passed away. I tend to think of her as a second Mom as well as a big sister. It's hard to believe that she's gone. She will always be a part of our lives.

Jason Zimmerman - February 26, 2021 at 05:40 PM

BT

“ I became part of Karen's extended family when I married her cousin, Stacy. I remember how warm and kind she was to me when we first met at a family function. It was important to Karen that everyone around her felt comfortable, welcome and valued. At every family gathering I can remember, Karen would always make it a point to talk to me, ask me how I was doing, and make me feel like I belonged. Her kindness and thoughtfulness made a real difference for me and so many others. My deepest sympathies and love extend to Eric, Matthew, Andy, Judy, and Jill.

Blake Tippens - February 26, 2021 at 01:39 PM

SK

I never had the luck to meet Karen personally. That is my loss as everything that I have heard about her is good. May she rest in peace and may God grant solace to her family, my cousin Eric, and their two sons.

Scott Kilhefner - February 26, 2021 at 05:41 PM

CK

“Karen was married to my cousin Eric. When we did see each other in person (which wasn't as often as I would have liked), she was always nice and caring. I also found Karen to be a great listener! Andy, Matthew, and Eric were all super-blessed to have had Karen in their lives!
-Chad Kilhefner

Chad Kilhefner - February 26, 2021 at 12:17 PM

AK

“From the day we moved in you were the kindest person to us. We were neighbors and quickly became friends. I'll treasure our many talks, our Halloween and New Year's Eve parties, our backyard bonfires, wine tastings, dinners, happy hours and many many other times in between. I'll never forget you and the legacy you left behind in your boys. You were such a wonderful mother. I always admired that about you. Until we meet again Karen.

Angie Keesee - February 26, 2021 at 08:50 AM

HB

“Karen was an amazing boss . The therapy world comes with pressures and stresses to get the job done at all costs, but Karen was always mindful of what is important in life. If one of my boys was sick, she would say “stay home and take care of him” When the snow was coming down thick and fast, she would say “ get home before the roads get bad”, and when my mom passed away in Ireland, Karen said “take as long as you need , your job will be here when you get back.” Karen was there in the challenging times, but she also showed up big time when there was a staff “pot luck” lunch. Her dishes were always the best , and I have countless recipes that she shared with me over the years. Outside of work, Karen was a loyal friend and confidante. We shared a love of Bruce Springsteen and raising our boys. I remember the fun nights on the school bleachers watching Andy play soccer , or at the Capital Clubhouse where Matt was on the ice, and more recently the excitement of preparing for them to head off to college. Andy and Matt were Karen’s world, and Eric was the rock that completed her perfect family. I will miss you my friend, but the memories will never fade. ~ Heather Burton

Heather Burton - February 24, 2021 at 08:42 PM

LH

“ I want Eric and the boys to know that Karen was my supervisor at the Saint Mary's Nursing and Rehab center. She joined us just after getting married and was in the process of buying the house I believe. I remember her pregnancies, her father's passing and her mother in laws passing. She always spoke so highly of you Eric and the boys. She was there for me when I was going through a hard spot in my life. Allowing me time to see a Councelor letting me go home early and finish work at home so I could be there for my 2 boys. I will always remember her smile and that she was a snappy dresser. She gave me a Dreidel one year and I bring it out every Hanukkah. Now it will mean more to me than before. She was a wonderful woman and I am glad she was part of my life. I will be keeping all you men and Karens mom and sister in my prayers.
Lynn Hoyle

Lynn Hoyle - February 24, 2021 at 06:42 PM

JD

“ Vacations, sneezes, holidays, college parties, fighting over who got the better seat in the old station wagon. Your fierce love of your boys. Talking, one of your special gifts. Your strength and bravery through everything that was thrown at you. Your unwavering positive attitude. Sarcasm and humor. Nothing will ever be the same. I will miss you forever. Jill

Jill Dennis - February 24, 2021 at 06:02 PM