



## Karen Ann Petito

July 3, 2021

Karen Ann (Nans) Petito of Dobbs Ferry passed away on July 3, 2021 after a courageous battle with brain cancer.

Karen was born on April 16, 1953 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. She moved to Manhattan after graduating from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and worked for several years as a paralegal for a large patent law firm. In 1987, Karen, her husband and daughter moved to Dobbs Ferry, where they had their son. Later on, she began working part-time as a kindergarten aide at Springhurst Elementary School and then became a full-time teaching assistant. Karen was part of Springhurst for almost twenty years and was devoted to the children she worked with. She never hesitated when it came to helping others, and after successfully navigating the state certification requirement of the No Child Left Behind Act, guided several of her co-workers through the process as well.

Karen loved Paul McCartney and the Beatles, as well old movies, especially those with Cary Grant. She had an amazing sense of humor, loved to laugh and enjoyed comedies of all kind. Karen was an avid sports fan who rooted for the New York Yankees and New York Giants, but deep down still loved the Green Bay Packers and Milwaukee Brewers. One of her proudest accomplishments was running in and completing the London Marathon on May 13, 1984.

She is survived by her loving husband Joe of 42 years; her two devoted children Anne (Alex) and Thomas (Brianna); and grandchildren June and Paul. Karen is also survived by her brother/sister in-laws Pauline, Joe, Michael and Linda, numerous nieces and nephews, and so many wonderful friends. She is pre-deceased by her parents, Chester and Evelyn. Karen and her love for life will be deeply missed by all.

A memorial service is scheduled for Saturday July 17, 2021 from 12PM – 4PM, at Edwards-Dowdle Funeral Home in Dobbs Ferry.

# Events

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<b>JUL</b>	<b>Memorial</b>	12:00PM - 04:00PM
<b>17</b>	<hr/>	
	Edwards - Dowdle Funeral Home	
	64 Ashford Avenue, Dobbs Ferry, NY, US, 10522	

# Comments

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“ Anyone who was a friend of Karen's knew what a sweet, kind, and loving person she was. She loved her students, and would help anyone in need. The most outstanding trait of hers was the ability to laugh, and tell jokes. She was an amazing person and will be missed not only by her family, but all those people whose life she touched. When I stayed at her and Joe's home, she went out of her way to make sure I was comfortable and had enough to eat. If it wasn't in the house, she or Joe would go out and get what was needed. In the morning, she made me coffee, and even buttered my bagel. The thought of not seeing Karen ever again in this life breaks my heart and you will be in my thoughts, prayers, and my heart forever. God, please take care of Karen the way she took care of others. I will miss not seeing your smiling face. I love you Kare. May you RIP. Love your cousins Pat and Jim.

**Patrick J. Delio** - July 19, 2021 at 12:09 PM

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“ Olympia Bajdechi purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Karen Ann Petito.



**Olympia Bajdechi** - July 16, 2021 at 09:07 AM

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“ Love, Mary Ann, Meghan & Jack purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Karen Ann Petito.



**Love, Mary Ann, Meghan & Jack** - July 15, 2021 at 08:10 PM

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“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Karen Ann Petito.



July 15, 2021 at 07:28 PM

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“ With love- The Gramlich Family, Westerly RI purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Karen Ann Petito.



**With love- The Gramlich Family, Westerly RI** - July 15, 2021 at 02:35 PM

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“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Karen Ann Petito.



July 15, 2021 at 01:35 PM

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“ Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Karen Ann Petito.



July 14, 2021 at 03:52 AM

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“ Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Karen Ann Petito.



July 09, 2021 at 08:30 PM

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“ When I first met Karen, I knew instantly I wanted her to become a part of the Springhurst family of faculty. Karen had a contagious smile, so open to everyone child or adult. Her presence gave young children a calmness and a strength to try their best.

She adored her family. Joe and Karen raised great children.

My heartfelt sympathy goes out to Joe, Annie and Tommy.

It was an honor to know and work with her.

Georgiene Spellman (Dempsey)

**Georgiene Spellman** - July 09, 2021 at 01:19 PM

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“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Karen Ann Petito.



July 07, 2021 at 11:31 PM

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“ My deepest sympathies for Joey, Annie, Tommy and their families. Karen was such a caring mother and was always there for Ashley. I will never forget how she went that extra yard for all of those she loved and cared about. May she Rest In Peace and the memories of her bring your family comfort.

**Vikki Jones** - July 07, 2021 at 08:23 PM



“ My sincere condolences to Joey Annie ,Tommy and their families For 15 years Karen was a part of our gym Trio. We so looked forward to seeing each other at 5 AM No matter how tired we were or what the weather was out we were always there to discuss the days events. We discussed graduations ,engagements ,weddings and kept up with each other's families.I for one and I'm sure Nancy the third part of our trio also misses. those days. But most of all I know we miss Karen. Please except deepest sympathy to the entire Petito family as I know you more than anyone will miss Karen. Sincerely Alexis & Robert Patrissi

**Alexis Patrissi** - July 08, 2021 at 03:30 PM

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“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Karen Ann Petito.



July 07, 2021 at 12:19 PM

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“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



**Pam Fleming** - July 07, 2021 at 10:59 AM

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“ Karen was a great friend and an especially important lifeline to me after losing my beloved Chuck. Her enduring support and love especially since then is especially unforgettable. One of my special memories of Karen that I will carry forever is our time together every Friday night during football season making the traditional pizza frites for the football team in her kitchen. She always had a glass of wine waiting for me! Lauren was most always with me and Karen ensured that she loved those Friday nights as much as we did! I would not have made it through those first few years without her and those Friday nights! She also helped put together a surprise 50th birthday dinner for me in NYC with all my other special friends where afterwards we all went to see one of her favorite shows; "The Jersey Boys" on Broadway- which was I think was at least her 5th time seeing that show! She had to make sure I saw that show! She was also instrumental in helping me efficiently navigate the NYS certification process to obtain my teaching assistant qualifications to work at Springhurst right after Chuck passed away. We shared many laughs and special times and conversations with our boys being good friends over the years. She would go out of her way to make people feel special. She was a treasure and I will miss her. God bless her and may she rest in the ever loving peace and grace she deserves- in the loving arms of our Holy Father in Heaven.  
xo Pam Fleming and family

Pam Fleming - July 07, 2021 at 10:54 AM

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“ I remember the first time I met Karen. It was her daughter Annie's first day of Kindergarten at Springhurst. Annie didn't want to get out of the car. I opened her door and took her hand and we walked to her class room together. I think Karen and I became friends immediately after that. She always reminded me of that story. I will miss her very much. Until we meet again.

celia Casey - July 06, 2021 at 08:18 PM

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“ Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Karen Ann Petito.



July 06, 2021 at 07:09 PM

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“ Mary K . purchased a sympathy card for the family of Karen Ann Petito.



**Mary K .** - July 06, 2021 at 04:38 PM

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“ Condolences to Joe, Annie and Tommy. We were so saddened to hear of Karen's passing. She was such a big part of Dobbs Ferry! I loved hanging out with her at our kids' games. I'd always find Karen on the sidelines through countless softball, volleyball, football games. She always had a smile on her face and would always say something that made you laugh. Karen was also the quintessential volunteer. You could always count on Karen to show up for every PTSA event and again, always with a smile on her face. May her memory be a blessing. Love from the Sterne Family

**Anna Sterne** - July 06, 2021 at 03:35 PM