



## Karen Anne (Niesse) Jeter

March 2, 1959 - January 15, 2017

Karen Anne (Niesse) Jeter, 57, of Monrovia, passed from this life at 9:45pm, on Sunday, January 15, 2017, in the presence of loved ones and in the comfort of her own home. Raised with three loving sisters, Karen was born on March 2, 1959, in Indianapolis, to the late Richard H. and Jeanette Charlotte (Shiple) Niesse.

Karen graduated from Warren Central in 1978. She continued her education by attending classes at Anderson University and later earned an Associate's degree from Modesto Junior College. An intelligent, funny, positive woman, Karen chose to always see the good in everyone. She fell in love with Kimball Jeter, to whom she was united in marriage on August 16, 1980 and together they relocated for work in Stockton, California, where they resided for 33 years. Capable of fulfilling many roles, Karen's life was given purpose when she became the proud mother of her daughter, Monica. Before settling in her career, she worked as an insurance underwriter, medical assistant and in childcare.

In addition to being a selfless mother and committed wife, Karen was full of ambition. She dedicated 20 years of clerical work to the California State Corrections Department. After retiring in 2014, the Jeter family moved back to Indiana, where they comfortably settled into a very fitting and beautiful Victorian style home of her choice. She collected trendy and unique, costume

jewelry and accompanying her class and interests of arts and crafts, an accustomed area had been built downstairs for her to design and make her own signature jewelry.

Known to be stubborn and sarcastic at times, Karen was always a good time. She knew how to have fun. Whether it was a day of shopping, a night out dancing or just a casual sing along with Fleetwood Mac or Stevie Nicks, she was happy. A life with few regrets, she made the trip home each year to see family and she was able to go on cruises with her travel partner, Kathy. She showered each person with love and laughter. Karen's legacy leaves an irreplaceable impression and cherished memories with a host of loved ones.

Survivors include her husband, Kimball Street Jeter of Monrovia; daughter, Monica Jean Jeter of Monrovia; sisters, Jan Binder (husband, Phil), Ruth Kelly (husband, Kevin) and Angie Niesse (partner, Mary Jones) all of Indianapolis; nieces, Lisa Calvert and Jennifer Binder; nephews, Sean and Ryan Kelly; great nephew, Noah Calvert; sister-in-law, Paula Busse all of Indianapolis.

Along with her parents, she was preceded in death by her favorite canine companion, Smokey.

Friends and family are invited to gather from 2 to 4pm, on Saturday, January 21, 2017, with the Memorial Service immediately following and held at 4:00pm, in Light Memorial & Funeral Chapel, Monrovia. Memorial contributions may be made to Wings of Hope or to the Cancer Treatment Center of America. Cremation and Funeral Arrangements have been entrusted to Light Memorial & Funeral Chapel. To share a favorite memory or photo of Karen, send the family an online condolence and sign the online guest registry visit [www.lightmemorial.com](http://www.lightmemorial.com).

# Previous Events

## Friends & Family Gathering

JAN 21. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Light Memorial & Funeral Chapel  
585 East Main Street  
Monrovia, IN 46157  
(317) 996-2101  
<https://www.lightmemorial.com>

## Service

JAN 21. 4:00 PM (ET)

Light Memorial & Funeral Chapel  
585 East Main Street  
Monrovia, IN 46157  
(317) 996-2101  
<https://www.lightmemorial.com>

# Tribute Wall

JO

“ We have known Karen and Kimball for 35 years. The greatest people on earth. Very, very sorry that they did not get to spend a long retirement together. One that they so well deserved. We have made donations to Wings of Hope and The Cancer Treatment Centers. Organizations that provided so much care and assistance to both Karen and Kimball during her illness.

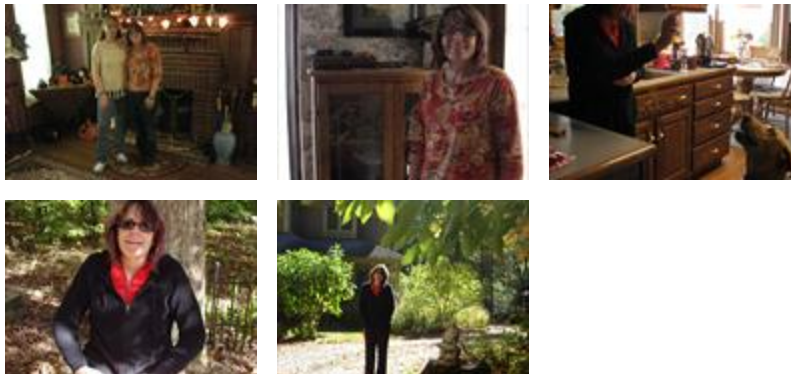


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**Jack & Nancy O'Keefe** - January 25, 2017 at 08:23 PM

BW

“ 28 files added to the album Memories



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**Beth Way** - January 21, 2017 at 09:32 AM

JA

“ Ruth and family, I'm so sorry to hear of the passing of your sister. I will keep you and your family in my prayers. Jacki (Hazzard) Alexander.

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**Jacki Alexander** - January 20, 2017 at 07:00 PM

P(

*So many years have passed since we met in Stockton, California. Those were the good days. I loved you like a sister and although both of us we moved from Larcom Lane in Stockton I am sorry that we lost touch... Rest on Peace my dear friend. Pam*

Pamela Miller (Leonard) - July 24, 2025 at 01:16 PM

TF

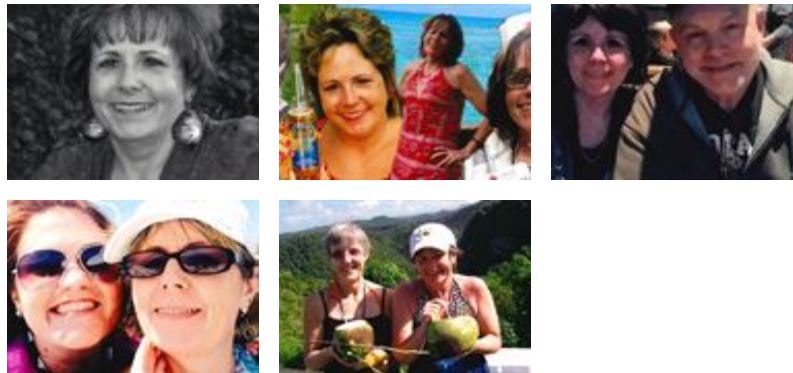
“ *The Freibert Family purchased the Basket of Memories for the family of Karen Anne (Niesse) Jeter.*



The Freibert Family - January 20, 2017 at 04:36 PM



“ *94 files added to the album Life Tributes*



Light Memorial & Funeral Chapel - January 20, 2017 at 03:26 PM

PM

“ Karen was a great friend to me and I will always love her. We had many laughs and fun times together. I will miss her company on trips...she made every trip memorable!! Thinking of the family at this time and hoping you find peace at the Celebration of Life tomorrow. I would be there if there was any way I could get there. However, I will be there in spirit instead. Love to you all, Jeter Family.

*Peggy Moser*

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**Peggy Moser** - January 20, 2017 at 08:28 AM



“ Our heartfelt sympathy and condolences to Kim, Monica and family. Our prayers and thoughts are with you.



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**Hal Clark** - January 19, 2017 at 06:17 PM

BS

“ I have many fond memories of spending fun Thanksgiving feasts and Memorial Day celebrations with Karen, her siblings and her parents. Mostly, the four girls (Jan, Karen, Ruth, and Angie), were giggles and dimples. And, as adults, they have all continued to make us laugh. We all grew up in the Indy area, but on opposite sounds of town, yet whenever we were together, we wanted to stay all night so we could continue having fun together. Their Dad, my Uncle Rick, was such a good humored person and loved being the only man with his five girls (including Aunt Jeanette).

We were so sad to learn that Karen found out about her illness shortly after moving back to Indiana to be closer to her family. Her sisters told me recently that she had a very positive outlook and lots of fun times during the course of her cancer, so they were thankful to have this special time with her.

You're all in our thoughts and prayers and we'll see you Saturday.

Love to all of you,

Barb and Tim Strueh and our daughter, Denise

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**Barb Strueh** - January 19, 2017 at 05:49 PM



“ A Full Life was purchased for the family of Karen Anne (Niesse) Jeter.



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January 19, 2017 at 01:45 PM

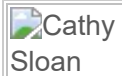


“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Karen Anne (Niesse) Jeter.*



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January 19, 2017 at 11:18 AM



“ *1 file added to the album New Album Name*



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**Cathy Sloan** - January 19, 2017 at 08:30 AM



“ *Karen was a patient of mine in Stockton, Ca. God bless the family. All of our sympathies. Doctor Wilson and staff.*

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**G. Barnard Wilson, OD** - January 18, 2017 at 07:40 PM



“ Sincere condolences to her family and friends. She seemed to me exactly as written in her obituary. I met her on a cruise with Cathy(my husband was recovering from Radiation treatments and quite weary) so I palled on with Karen and Cathy(we'd met previously on another cruise).Boy did we have fun....so many laughs and of course we had to see turtles which Karen loved. 2 years ago Karen and Cathy and some other friends came to see me in Vancouver and we then did a mini cruise down to San Francisco. Karen lit up when she talked of her husband and daughter and loved them without measure. She was brave with her diagnosis, did not complain but instead was so grateful for her enriched life. It isn't fair that she was taken so soon but I know she had a strong faith to sustain her and her family. I know she will be greatly missed....one in a million! Hugs to you all.  
Sheena Cunningham Vancouver BC Canada

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**Sheena Cunningham** - January 18, 2017 at 05:37 PM




“ Your Light Shines was purchased for the family of Karen Anne (Niese) Jeter.



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January 18, 2017 at 04:59 PM

 Cathy  
Sloan

“ One thing Karen did very well was to make everyone feel special. That is certainly how I felt whenever I was with her. Well, I felt a little silly, too. Because, when Karen (aka Lola) and I got together it was almost always a very silly and fun time.

*I met her several years ago working at Weight Watchers. We didn't know each other well, yet we planned a Caribbean cruise together. We traveled together many times since then. We even had "travel" names for each other. She was Lola and I was Miranda. Later, my sister Peggy joined in as Rita. It was corny and goofy, but that's how we were. She also didn't take any crap from anyone.*

*After working at WW, we would often go over to Chili's for chips & salsa and Michelob Ultra. And, she always asked for a bowl of green olives. She loved those darn things.*

*Most of the time, I think the people around us didn't have a clue of why we would burst out laughing. We didn't even have to say anything - we instinctively knew what each other was thinking and it cracked us up.*

*So many memories that I will keep in my heart forever.*

*She loved her friends. And she loved her family. And, she is loved by all of us.*

*Can't help but smile when I think of my Lola. I know she's still around, and will still help me to laugh and be silly.*

*Cathy Sloan  
Valley Springs, CA (near Stockton)*

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**Cathy Sloan** - January 18, 2017 at 02:56 PM



Cathy Sloan

*I did forget to add the shopping. Oh my! That girl could shop - LOL!!!*

Cathy Sloan - January 18, 2017 at 02:59 PM

AN

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Angie Niesse - January 18, 2017 at 12:05 PM



“ Health Nut Basket was purchased for the family of Karen Anne (Niesse) Jeter.



January 18, 2017 at 10:40 AM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Karen Anne (Niesse) Jeter.



January 18, 2017 at 10:31 AM

LL

“ Sorry to hear of your loss. Condolences to all of the family.



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Linda Leonardini - January 17, 2017 at 11:35 PM

JL

“ Karen and I became friends in Stockton California at a time in our lives when we both were doing day care. We shared many chats on the phone and field trips with our day care kids and just shared about all the things friends talk about. Karen loved to shop and find good deals and I enjoyed her company as a loyal and devoted friend. I think the thing I will always remember about Karen is her laugh- she had the best laugh! She was also a person that put others first. She was compassionate and caring and always willing to help. I will always remember our last conversation when she called to tell me about her diagnosis - she thanked me for being a good friend to her but I told her that she was the one that was a great friend. So glad I got to tell her that. I am praying for Kim and Monica and the family as I know there is no way to prepare for the loss of a loved one. May God give you His comfort as only He can do and may He surround you and guide you through this time of grief. I will miss you Karen - thank you for all the sweet memories. Love you ❤️

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Janet LaMont - January 17, 2017 at 09:22 PM

DA

“ I never had the honor of meeting Karen in person, but I feel like I have seen her love for life through the eyes of her beautiful daughter, Monica. I know the spunk, sass, and sweetness Monica has come from her mother. My heart is heavy for your whole family as I send my deepest condolences and prayers.  
*Donna Austin*



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**Donna Austin** - January 17, 2017 at 08:55 PM

HC

“ Hal and Liz Clark purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Karen Anne (Niesse) Jeter.



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**Hal and Liz Clark** - January 17, 2017 at 07:40 PM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Karen Anne (Niesse) Jeter.



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January 17, 2017 at 06:46 PM

JW

“ *Mary and I didn't know Karen, but heard about her courageous battle over the last year through my cousin Phil Binder and his wife Jan (Karen's sister). We am sorry to hear of her passing, but thankful that the painful battle is over now and that she is in a better place. Our prayers are with the family.*

*Mary and Jim Widner*

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**Jim Widner** - January 17, 2017 at 04:20 PM

CD

“ *Carol Dietrich purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Karen Anne (Niesse) Jeter.*



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**Carol Dietrich** - January 17, 2017 at 03:46 PM