



## Karen Szumlanski

December 5, 1949 - August 30, 2021

Karen Szumlanski (Deiotte), age 71 Battle Ground, IN, formerly of Munster, IN passed peacefully August 30, 2021.

Karen is survived by her loving husband of 50 years Christopher, daughter Katy (Dan) Young, grandchildren Ryan and Andrew Young, mother Gloria Deiotte Dolemba, siblings Diane (Dennis) Rockhill, James V. Deiotte, Barbara Deiotte, Cynthia (Steve) Scillitani, brother-in-law Andrew Szumlanski, and many nieces and nephews. She is preceded in death by her father James A. Deiotte and mother-in-law Alice Szumlanski.

Karen was a graduate of Bishop Noll Institute, class of 1967, went on to attend Purdue University, and additionally graduated with her Juris Doctorate from John Marshall Law School in Chicago, IL.

Karen practiced law in Lake County for many years and was a proud member of the Lake County Bar association until her retirement. Karen enjoyed the opera, fine cuisine and an occasional golf game as well a new found love of gardening. Above all else, nothing made her happier than spending time with her grandchildren. She will be missed immensely.

Private services will be provided by Burns Funeral Home in Crown Point, IN. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made in memoriam to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. Donations can be made in Karen's name online at [nationalmssociety.org/donate](http://nationalmssociety.org/donate) [www.burnsfuneral.com](http://www.burnsfuneral.com)

# Tribute Wall

KP

“ *The Deiotte family has been in my “field of vision & awareness,” admiration, heart & prayers for over 50 years —since Jim and I attended music school together and became fast friends*

*Karen and I share the same name (different spelling) and for the past five decades I had heard of her accomplishments, her life and the immense respect and love she’d earned from all.*

*YOUR FAMILY & YOUR FAITH ARE ENDURING & STRONG. In this saddest of times, I am certain you are comforted knowing Karen lived a blessed , good & righteous life. Zichronah L’vracha,” (Z’L) May her memory be for a blessing.*

*Karin Pritikin*

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**Karin Pritikin** - September 08, 2021 at 02:49 PM

RI

“ *My Dearest Gloria, Chris, Katy and Jimmy*

*It is with the deepest sadness I have learned of the loss of our beloved Karen. Words cannot express how my heart feels knowing she is gone. Solace lays with the beautiful memories at the cabin when all the families from Indiana would come up for vacations. The times we all spent together swimming, boating, laughing, fishing, dinners cooked over an open camp fire, the card games at night, the Love we all shared together, we were all as one. God bless.*

*Ricky Mitchell*

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**Ricky** - September 06, 2021 at 10:26 PM

RM

*Dear Barbara. I have been inundated with the most heart warming memories and thoughts of the times we all spent at the cabin and in Indiana. But I had an unsettling feeling that something was missing someone as I think back further in my thoughts and I realized it was you. I am so sorry I did not include your name in Karen's tribute, The memories of you and I swimming, fishing, making the cook fires, playing Jarts on the beach, card games of "Go Fish" are vivid for us to keep forever. Ricky*

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**Ricky Mitchell** - September 08, 2021 at 01:21 AM

TH

“ Barb,

*I am SO SORRY to learn that Karen passed. I have such fond memories of Karen and me dragging ourselves out to Valpo University for weeks to study the Indiana Bar exam. Juggling family, work and life, the countless coffees leading up to finally going to Indy to sit for the exam for two days seems like it was yesterday. Of course once we were admitted to practice, I would always enjoy running in to her in Court and catching up on our crazy worlds - it seems like Karen's pace never slowed down! Karen was such a kind person and will be truly missed. If there is anything I can do for you or the family PLEASE do not hesitate to contact me! Prayers for all of you and all the lives she touched.*

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**Tom Higgins** - September 03, 2021 at 02:13 PM

JD

“ My beloved sister Karen loved life.. all of its ups and downs, and took life on life's own terms. I am so many memories, all beautiful, really... Two came to mind almost immediately. Once when she and Chris (husband) came to visit we drove to Letchworth state Park in New York State south of Buffalo. It was a beautiful fall day, enormous and beautiful colors, and she started to cry grateful tears at the beautiful creation of God. It overwhelmed her... as did the beautiful gorge in the park, with 3 waterfalls, and stunning colors that mesmerized the heart of all of us. She took it all in with such joy and gratitude. We also wanted a snack, and we both loved Hostess cup cakes and Twinkies. So. not able to decide we got both and share one of each. All with a special joy of heart... mmmmmm good. Karen loved the study of law and was gracious and gentle and generous to her clients, working hour after hour no matter how the energy drained her. It was to her, vocation. I see a picture of her in my mind as a little girl, her curly hair tied on the sides of her head I think in a kind of pony tale, bouncing in pure joy at being the may queen that year for her grade school. Absolutely beautiful. I know we have one more angel in heaven... I miss her so much but for her, she is with my dad, her beloved friends and family (and her opera companion she so enjoyed. My grandmothers, all...so in that tunnel of light, who could turn around except for her incredible love of all of us, especially Chris, and Kati and the beautiful children and Dan. Her Bother in law,, siblings and my mom... oh how she enjoyed all of us. She was always a mender so.... we all have a guardian angel, and imagine, her love so deep just how beautiful it must be as she moved towards the everlasting light.. We are all better for our Karen. A bundle of joy so often, and always welcoming to others.

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James Deiotte - September 03, 2021 at 12:11 AM

AL

“ Dear Gloria, Chris, Katy and family...

*Our hearts are saddened to hear about the passing of Karen. You are all in our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. May the great and happy memories of Karen help you through your pain and sadness.*

*We remember Karen for the two great summers we shared with her in Hammond, IN during our High School years...driving us around and being a bit mischievous during our adventures with her. Her boisterous laugh would make us laugh....and she loved to laugh. Her visits to California brought us more adventures together and certainly never a dull moment. We teased her for her Indiana "accent" which she never thought she had....but we loved it. Even though we were cousins far apart, she was always in our thoughts with fun and memorable "cousin" times. We know Karen will be greatly missed by many of her family and friends for her energetic personality, kindness, caring and giving nature.*

*Were certain Karen will be watching over all of us....lifting our spirits when things are good, bad or just difficult. A Wife, Daughter, Mom, Grandma, Sister, Aunt, cousin and friend....She will always be there for you!*

*Hugs and Love to all the family.*

*xxx...ooo*

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**Ann Mitchell Luttringer** - September 02, 2021 at 03:25 PM

JA

*And I get teased by Indiana folks for sounding like I have a Chicago accent, which is typical of people who grew up in the "region" .... and in Buffalo New York, they were shocked that I was from Indiana because I didn't sound like my college who was from Richmond Indiana. Always in fun. As of course when I go to Spanish speaking countries they ask if I am from Italy because is have an "Italian"accent in my speaking in Spanish. Its always fun. Wonderful memory Ann.. thanks*

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**James** - September 04, 2021 at 07:05 PM