



## Ms. Karen Nelson

May 15, 1947 - May 6, 2020

Karen G. (Oliver) Nelson

Beloved Mother, Foster Mother, Grandmother, Great-Grandmother, Daughter, Sister, Friend

LOWELL ----Karen G. (Oliver) Nelson passed away May 6, 2020 at Lowell General Hospital due to complications from COVID-19.

Born in Lowell, MA on May 15, 1947 she was the daughter of William Oliver and the late Katherine B. (Koch) Oliver. Karen grew up in the small, closely knit, Swede Village neighborhood, where she attended Fellowship United Methodist Church and was part of their MYF program. She attended The Weed Street School, Shaughnessy Elementary School, Butler Jr. High School and Lowell High School, graduating in 1965. She continued her education, earning an LPN degree at Tewksbury State Hospital, School of Nursing, along with training at Crotched Mountain School for the Disabled in Greenfield, NH. In the 1970's she worked as a nurse at St. Joseph's Hospital.

She married David Nelson of Brighton, who was the absolute love of her life, in April 1974 and they relocated to Houston, TX with sons Thomas and Timothy Field, and foster daughter Deborah Murphy. While in Texas, Karen worked as a houseparent and nurse at a home for developmentally challenged. Karen gave birth to daughter Katheryn Molly in 1975, and the

family relocated back to Lowell, MA in 1976.

Karen loved to sew and embroider, making Halloween costumes for friends and family, and handcrafting gifts. She maintained a lovely flower garden and enjoyed growing vegetables. She loved everything about Christmas and always celebrated St. Patrick's Day by making corned beef and cabbage for as many as could fit in her home. Karen was happiest when she was surrounded by nature, and loved summers at the beach with her family and her time at the Lake in Tyngsboro.

She loved her family and friends more than anything, and they loved her in return. She was generous, kind and nurturing, always willing to help anyone in need. She took great pride in being a foster mother, having several foster children in her home throughout the years.

She is survived by two sons, Thomas Field of Berlin, NH, and Timothy Field of Lowell, MA; one daughter, Katheryn, and her husband Han Stutz of Pelham, NH; one sister, Linda Brousseau of Lowell, MA; one brother, William M. Oliver and his wife Kathie of Tyngsboro, MA; she leaves 6 grandchildren, Tasha and her husband Joseph Kenney of Lowell, MA, Crystal Agrela of Dracut, MA, Samuel Field of Lowell MA, and Emily, Kaitlin and Ryan Stutz of Pelham, NH; Karen was very proud of being a great-grandmother to Evan Sampson and Lydia Kenney of Lowell, MA, and Luis and Cassie Agrela of Dracut, MA.

She will be missed by loving nieces and nephews, Margaret and her husband Joel Margi of Lowell, MA, Dustin Neild and his wife Lynn, and their daughter Scout, of Littleton, MA, William J. Oliver of Tyngsboro, MA and Samuel Oliver and his wife Vanessa, and their son Mason of Tyngsboro, MA; two aunts, Gladys Carignan of Clearwater, FL, Thelma and her husband Donald of Los Angeles, CA; an uncle, Neil Oliveria Sr. of Lowell, MA; a foster daughter, Deborah Murphy; and foster son, Lorenzo "Rocky" Spingola, as well as many

cousins and friends.

Karen was predeceased by her mother, Katherine B.(Koch) Oliver; daughter in law, Rose Field; brother in law Donald Brousseau; and her dear friend William J. Delesio Sullivan.

ARRANGEMENTS BY THE  
FAY McCABE FUNERAL DIRECTORS  
978-459-9222 [www.faymccabe.com](http://www.faymccabe.com)

# Tribute Wall



“ *Ms. Karen Nelson*

January 28, 2023 at 03:09 PM



“ *My deepest condolences. You have a beautiful daughter. Please watch over her. May your soul rest in heavenly peace.*

**Lynn Flaherty** - May 21, 2020 at 08:40 PM



“ *Linda and Bill and Family*

*My deepest condolences for your loss. I am saddened by the loss of such a wonderful lifelong friend. May she be at peace.*

*Bill Rourke.*

**Bill Rourke** - May 18, 2020 at 08:44 PM



“ *Billy, Kathie and family,  
John and I are sending our deepest condolences. So sorry for your loss! May she Rest In Peace!*

**Deb & John Burke** - May 17, 2020 at 04:28 PM

GM

“ My goodness never thought I would be writing this to say My Sincere Sympathy to the whole family of Karen. Karen and I lived next door to one another and went all through school together. We played as children with all the other neighborhood kids and we all had so much fun. Karen was a wonderful Daughter and Sibling and, I'm sure she was a great wife and Mother and now from what I read a Foster Mom. Karen and I were not as close as in our younger years but, I never forgot her. In talking with her Sister Linda I always asked her to say Hi for me and to the rest of the Family. From reading the wonderful article that was prepared for you, you have accomplished so much and have helped to many and that does not surprised me. It is wonderful that you wasted not one minute in helping so many. God Speed Karen and I know we will meet again, and I guess God just needed another Angel. Hugs Grace

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**Grace Murphy - Maxfield** - May 17, 2020 at 02:31 PM

SK

“ Sheila Anderson Kirschbaum lit a candle in memory of Ms. Karen Nelson



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**Sheila Anderson Kirschbaum** - May 17, 2020 at 08:24 AM

JW

“ Judy Winters lit a candle in memory of Ms. Karen Nelson



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**Judy Winters** - May 17, 2020 at 07:53 AM

JW

*Linda I'm so sorry to hear of the loss of your sister Karen. My thoughts are with you your dad and Family. Stay strong hang on to your memories.*

*Judy Winters*

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**Judy Winters** - May 17, 2020 at 07:55 AM

SH

“ *R.I.P. Karen. This is beautifully written. I always remember you smiling. May you rest in peace now. Your family loves you very much.*

*-Sharon Taylor*



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**sharonTaylor** - May 16, 2020 at 08:33 AM

CM

“ *Karen, may you rest in peace. I will always hold you dear to my heart and have NEVER forgotten how much you helped me during difficult times in my life as a foster child and beyond! You were a wonderful person. I pick a rose candle for you because I remember how much you loved rose soap. God Bless 🙏🙏*



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**Colleen Murphy** - May 15, 2020 at 09:30 PM

BC

“ *Brenda Cronin lit a candle in memory of Ms. Karen Nelson*



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**Brenda Cronin** - May 15, 2020 at 08:50 PM

SF

“ *Samantha Feehan lit a candle in memory of Ms. Karen Nelson*



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**Samantha Feehan** - May 15, 2020 at 08:23 PM

LK

“ *Our deepest sympathies to your entire family.*

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**Linda & Fred Koehler** - May 15, 2020 at 08:22 PM

SR

“ *Sean & Erin Rourke lit a candle in memory of Ms. Karen Nelson*



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**Sean & Erin Rourke** - May 15, 2020 at 12:53 PM