



Karen Jean Beirne-Getz

March 23, 1954 - August 19, 2020

Karen Jeane Beirne-Getz, 62, of 15 York Ave. Towanda, PA passed away Wednesday evening, August 19, 2020 at her home surrounded by her family following declining health.

Karen was born March 23, 1954 in Edenton, NC the second of eleven children to Patrick L. Beirne Sr. and Carol J. David Beirne. Following graduation from Towanda Area High School, Karen continued her education receiving her Associate degree from Williamsport School of Commerce, Williamsport, PA Bachelor of Science degree, Elmira College, Elmira, NY and Master's degree from Mansfield University, Mansfield, PA. Karen recently retired after 26 years with the Towanda Area School District, where she served as a principal, teacher, Title 1 Coordinator, Curriculum Director, and job coach. Karen was active in the Early Learning Network, implemented Kindergarten Entry Inventory and was instrumental in the start of the PreK Counts Program.

Karen was an ambassador nourishing the human spirit in the life-long process of learning so that one experiences personal joy and fulfillment which is reciprocated in the communities in which we live and serve. Karen served as Executive Director of Big Brothers/Big Sisters; Director, Proprietor, Teacher, Tender Loving Bear Preschool, and Day Care; Preschool Teacher, Play Day, Towanda; GED-ABE Teacher Northern Tier Career Center, Towanda; Children's Advocate/Counselor, ARCC, Towanda. Karen was involved in community activities as Agency Chairperson, United Way, 1988-1990; Literacy Tutor, 1990; Assistant Director, Leadership Camp 1991-1992; Membership

Chairperson, Towanda Rotary Club, Towanda; Group Study Exchange Recruitment Committee for Rotary District 7410, 1990-1991; Member Civic Club, Towanda Rotary, 1982-1992, Assistant, Landmark Education, 1994-1995

In 1989 Karen did a 6-week travel grant with Rotary International Group Study Exchange. She visited and trained in schools in Amsterdam, India, and Sri Lanka. She also studied family life, social service agencies, factories, facilities of worships, and hospitals. She possessed great love for her family and enjoyed gardening, sewing, cooking, and swimming and competed in 2 Steamtown Marathons and a More Marathon in New York City.

As a beacon of light, Karen helped guide her spouse, children and siblings with joy, kindness and love.

Karen's Family includes her husband, Michael W. Getz, whom she married in 2002, children, Christie J. Robinson (JR Rought) of Sullivan County, PA, David F. Robinson of Richmond, VA, grandchildren, Ali Sparrow, Kenny Arey, and Dallas Rought, her parents, Patrick L Beirne Sr. and Carol J. David Beirne, siblings, Patrick L. (Sharon) Beirne, Towanda; Mary C. "Cathy" (Darrell) West, TN; James D. (Kyu) Beirne, WV; Helen E. "Libby" (Jeffrey) Hager, NY; Darlene M. (Anthony) Barrow, OK; Michael J. (Ines) Beirne, FL; Kelly B. (Don) Wilhelm; Barbara A. (Joe) Slama, CA; Dianna L. (Jonathan) Kunis, FL; Virginia A. (Michael) Young, NY, brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, David (Beverly) Getz, Robert (Mary) Getz, as well as many nieces and nephews. The family will receive friends Wednesday, August 26th, 2020 from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the Maryott-Bowen Funeral Home 217 York Ave. Towanda, PA with a Celebration of Life Service to follow at 7:00 p.m. The family suggests that contributions may be directed to the Towanda Area Education Foundation, Saint Agnes Race for Education, or YMCA Children Programs in memory of Karen.

Memories and condolences may be expressed by visiting www.bowenfuneralhomes.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG **26**. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Maryott-Bowen Funeral Home
217 York Ave.
Towanda, PA 18848
(570) 265-2272
info@bowenfuneralhomes.com

Service

AUG **26**. 7:00 PM (ET)

Maryott-Bowen Funeral Home
217 York Ave.
Towanda, PA 18848
(570) 265-2272
info@bowenfuneralhomes.com

Tribute Wall



“ Karen was a great friend to me. We would have long conversations. She is deeply missed



Margo Lou Love - February 14, 2025 at 01:00 AM



“ Karen Jean Beirne-Getz

October 22, 2023 at 08:10 PM



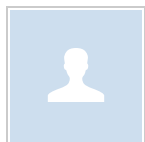
“ Karen Jean Beirne-Getz

October 08, 2023 at 10:34 PM



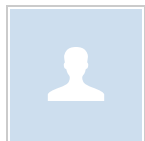
“ Karen Jean Beirne-Getz

October 06, 2023 at 09:57 AM



“ Karen Jean Beirne-Getz

October 06, 2023 at 03:29 AM



“ Karen Jean Beirne-Getz

October 05, 2023 at 02:02 PM

TH

“ It is with such heavy heart that I learned of Karen’s passing. Karen was an inspiration to me during my own battle with cancer in 2018/19. She shared her story with me and it was the light that guided me through some of my darkest times. It was a pleasure to know her and work with her. To her family, I am sorry for your loss. With love. - Tyler Hoffman



Tyler Hoffman - August 30, 2020 at 09:24 PM



“ Dish Garden with Fresh Cut Flowers was purchased for the family of Karen Jean Beirne-Getz.



August 26, 2020 at 06:45 PM

CG

“ I am deeply sorry for your lose.Karen was a beautiful lady who did many things to help people.She was gifted and did slot during her short time on the earth.My thoughts and prayers are Sith your family.She will be missed.God love your family. Carole Gehring

Carole Gehring - August 26, 2020 at 05:54 PM

GC

“ To the Beirne and Getz families, you are in our thoughts and prayers with the loss of Karen. It's one of life's most difficult times when you lose a beloved family member. May God give you comfort thru your families, friends and wonderful memories.
Cliff & Gretchen Chilson



Gretchen Chilson - August 26, 2020 at 02:44 PM

GG

“ My heart is broken.

Gary Goeckel - August 26, 2020 at 11:39 AM



“ Classic Sympathy Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Karen Jean Beirne-Getz.



August 26, 2020 at 10:34 AM

TR

“ Dear Mike,

I know Karen was the love of your life and won't ever forget how lovingly you spoke of her and how she inspired so many... we're so sorry for your loss and our thoughts and prayers are with you and the family, xoxo Tina, Guy & (Lil) Guy Rothery

Tina & Guy Rothery - August 25, 2020 at 10:58 AM



“ *Blue & White Sympathy Floor Basket was purchased for the family of Karen Jean Beirne-Getz.*



August 25, 2020 at 10:14 AM



“ *LINDA WEST, SALVATORE DEMAIO & RONALD COPP purchased the Blue & White Sympathy Floor Basket for the family of Karen Jean Beirne-Getz.*



LINDA WEST, SALVATORE DEMAIO & RONALD COPP -
August 24, 2020 at 03:03 PM



“ *Mike and family:*

Sorry for your loss. Carol Dieffenbach

Carol Dieffenbach - August 24, 2020 at 01:13 PM



“ *Pat, Carol and Family, We send our prayers for peace with your family, losing a family member is a difficult time in our lives. May God give you comfort thru family and friends.*

Jerry and Nancy Brown

Nancy Brown - August 24, 2020 at 12:34 PM



“ *Peace, Prayers, & Blessings- Yellow and White was purchased for the family of Karen Jean Beirne-Getz.*



August 24, 2020 at 09:21 AM



“ *I distinctly remember meeting Karen for the first time! She was a vibrant, extremely personable woman who was clearly in love with Mike. I remember thinking how well suited they were for each other and I was so very happy for Mike. Karen and I talked a lot that day and I knew she was a wonderful individual. Although our commonalities were not favorable; they allowed me to know the person Karen was. The world has lost a truly special person! Mike- you were loved by Karen and you remain loved by me. I am so very sorry for your loss.*

Katny Morean - August 23, 2020 at 11:28 AM



“ *RIP Karen,
Thoughts and prayers are with all of the family in your loss.
I will always remember Karen's smile and how nice she was from past.*



Claire Holton-Lizon - August 23, 2020 at 09:34 AM

MS

“ *Darlene and family. So sorry to hear of Karen's passing. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family at this sad time. Karen gave so much of herself to our community and will be missed by many.*

Michele Strohl - August 23, 2020 at 09:00 AM

FC

“ *Mike,*

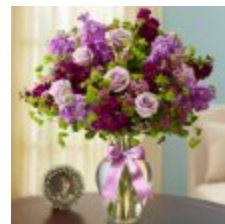
My condolences to you.

Frank Comfort

Frank Comfort - August 23, 2020 at 07:53 AM



“ *Shades of Purple was purchased for the family of Karen Jean Beirne-Getz.*



August 22, 2020 at 05:51 PM

JG

“ *We are so sorry and are sending prayers for Karen and her family. Mike, you are a very special person and brought so much love to Karen's life.*

Even though there is a hole in your heart today, you filled Karen's heart with love and support. Our prayers are with you.

Love Judy and John Greiger

Judy and John Greiger - August 22, 2020 at 05:16 PM



“ *Healing Tears - Blue and White was purchased for the family of Karen Jean Beirne-Getz.*



August 22, 2020 at 05:07 PM



“ *High school holds many memories that include Karen in our group of friends! Vivacious and strong, always ready for fun. Get those braces off ASAP!*

Joan Barnes-Confer - August 22, 2020 at 01:11 PM



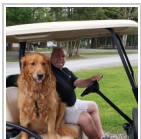
“ *To all members of the Beirne family, I send my sincere sympathy and prayers to all. Mary Alice Burchill Demangone*

Mary Alice Demangone - August 22, 2020 at 12:34 PM



“ *Our deepest condolences to the Beirne and Getz families . You are all in our thoughts and prayers !
Mike & Kelly Flynn*

m flynn - August 22, 2020 at 12:10 PM



“ *SO very sorry for your loss. Karen was a wonderful lady. Prayers for all the family.
Rick and Cindy Green*

Rick Green - August 22, 2020 at 09:16 AM

BF

“ *Bob and Mary Getz and Family purchased the Blue & White Standing Open Heart for the family of Karen Jean Beirne-Getz.*



Bob and Mary Getz and Family - August 22, 2020 at 07:51 AM

SB

“ *What an amazing women who made such an impact on so many.
My
Condolences to all, Sandy Bargainnier*

Sandy Bargainnier - August 22, 2020 at 06:12 AM