



Karen Ann Leaders

November 5, 1937 - December 26, 2025

Karen Ann Leaders, 88, of Napoleon, Ohio passed away on Friday, December 26, 2025, at CHP Defiance Inpatient Hospice. She was born on the family dairy farm in Florida, Ohio on November 5, 1937, to the late Merrill and Marguerite (Wagner) Niebel. Karen married John William Leaders on the family farm in 1955.

Karen was an active member of St. Peter Lutheran Church, Florida, Ohio, where she also sang in the church choir. In her younger days she helped with the family dairy farm, often rounding up the cattle on horseback. Karen loved the outdoors, especially tending to her landscaping. Karen started a card club and enjoyed playing euchre, pepper and pinochle. She also played the accordion and was an avid bowler, often bowling 200 games and 600 series. Her greatest joy was to be surrounded by her family and friends sharing good times and lots of laughter.

Karen is survived by her children, Debra (John) Precht, Sherry (Russell) Krueger, Sandra (Douglas) Blackwood, and Steven (Tracy) Leaders; grandchildren, Nicole Blackwood, Rebecca (Ruben) Pagan, Ian (Erin) Blackwood, Dalton (Brittany) Krueger, Bethany (Philip) Wertz, Rachel (Cooper) Wild, and Ezekiel Leaders; great grandchildren, Matteo, Liliana, and Amberly, and two on the way; and sister, Constance Barton. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, John; grandchildren,

Katherine and Brianna Blackwood; and brother, Jack Niebel.

A memorial gathering will be held on Saturday, January 10, 2025, at St. Peter Lutheran Church, Florida, Ohio, from 10:00 AM until the time of services at 12 Noon. Interment will be private. Memorial contributions may be made to St. Peter Lutheran Church Preschool or CHP Defiance Inpatient Hospice. Arrangements entrusted to Rodenberger-Gray Funeral Home, Napoleon, Online condolences may be shared with the family at rodenbergergray.com.

Cemetery Details

Riverview Memory Gardens

29321 County Rd 424
Defiance, OH 43512

Previous Events

Memorial Gathering

JAN 10. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

St. Peter's Lutheran Church-Florida, Ohio
K980 County Road 17D
Napoleon, OH 43545

Funeral Service

JAN 10. 12:00 PM (ET)

St. Peter's Lutheran Church-Florida, Ohio
K980 County Road 17D
Napoleon, OH 43545

Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the album *Tribute Video*



Rodenberger Funeral Home - January 14 at 10:49 AM

PS

“ We were saddened to hear about Karen and Deb. So often we would pass Karen on the bridge or in Florida. She always had a smile on her face and a big wave for us. She will be missed by everyone who knew her.

Our sympathy and prayers for the family.

Sincerely, Paula & John Steele

Paula Steele - January 10 at 09:07 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Karen Ann Leaders.*



January 08 at 11:57 AM

TF

“ *The Kenning Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Karen Ann Leaders.*



The Kenning Family - January 08 at 11:34 AM

DM

“ *I'm so sorry to hear about the loss of your mom, Extending my deepest sympathy and sending prayers during this difficult time! Cherish the precious moments and memories.*

Dean Meyer - January 05 at 09:35 PM

CF

“ *I am so very sorry for the loss of your beautiful mom and grandma. What a special person she was! I am sending hugs to each of you, and will be praying for you to find comfort in knowing she is with our Lord in Heaven, and reunited with your Dad and all those who have gone on before. May God be with you at this difficult time.*



Carol Agler and Family - January 02 at 09:45 AM

FF

“ *Your mom was a sweet heart she always had a hug when ever I saw her. She will be missed by all since she had a huge heart filled with kindness and love. Our thoughts and prayers will be with you all*

Forbes family - December 30, 2025 at 05:38 PM

TL

“ Terry and Paula Lynott planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Karen Ann Leaders.

Terry and Paula Lynott - December 30, 2025 at 03:43 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Karen Ann Leaders.



December 30, 2025 at 03:43 PM

KH

“ Sorry to hear of your mom's passing. She was such a beautiful lady, friendly and always smiling. She will be missed.

karen harms - December 30, 2025 at 09:39 AM

JD

“ I'm so very sorry to hear of the passing of Karen. She was such a lovely person and she always had a smile for you. I'm sending you many prayers.
Judy Dickmann

Judy Dickmann - December 29, 2025 at 08:05 PM

SJ

“ Sherry:

I want to extend my sympathy to you and your family. Your Mom always had a smile on her face no matter where I saw her.

Remember all the good times you had with your Mom. God be with you.

Sue Junge

Sue Junge - December 29, 2025 at 06:45 PM