



Karen Elizabeth Stein

January 10, 1947 - February 2, 2025

Karen Elizabeth (Garris) Stein, 78, of Napoleon, Ohio, passed away peacefully on February 2, 2025, in Olmsted Falls, Ohio. Born on January 10, 1947, in South Greensburg, Pennsylvania, she was the daughter of the late David and Nellie (Hitchman) Garris.

Karen dedicated her life to education, earning her bachelor's degree in special education from Point Park College. She was a devoted teacher, sharing her compassion and expertise with students at the Western Pennsylvania School for the Blind, the Napoleon Filling Home of Mercy, and Napoleon Area Schools. She formed deep connections with her students and took great pride in helping them every day.

A former member of St. Paul United Methodist Church in Napoleon, Karen also enjoyed being part of a local bridge club. She had a passion for collecting children's books, Longaberger baskets, and Santa figurines. More than anything, she cherished spending time with her family and took great joy following her grandchildren's activities. She was also known to live her life by a motto: "Believe!!".

Karen is lovingly remembered by her daughters, Melinda (Joseph) Doucette and Katherine (Todd) Kruse; her grandchildren, Mason, Zoie, and Zachary Doucette, Carlie (Damian Helm) Kruse and Mitchell Kruse; and her former spouse, Alan Stein.

A memorial service will be held at 6 p.m. on Thursday, February 6, at Rodenberger-Gray Funeral Home, Napoleon. Friends and family are welcome

to gather at the funeral home from 4 p.m. until the time of service.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Napoleon Filling Home of Mercy.

Previous Events

Memorial Gathering

FEB 6. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Rodenberger Funeral Home - Napoleon
1010 Westmoreland Avenue
Napoleon, OH 43545

Memorial Service

FEB 6. 6:00 PM (ET)

Rodenberger Funeral Home - Napoleon
1010 Westmoreland Avenue
Napoleon, OH 43545

Tribute Wall

AM

“ Abby, Amy, Cheryll, Colleen and Mary purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Karen Elizabeth Stein.



Abby, Amy, Cheryll, Colleen and Mary - February 05, 2025 at 09:40 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Karen Elizabeth Stein.



February 05, 2025 at 07:02 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Karen Elizabeth Stein.

February 05, 2025 at 07:02 PM

JB

“ Jen Tondera, Todd Tondera, Craig Bartko purchased the Vivid Recollections for the family of Karen Elizabeth Stein.



Jen Tondera, Todd Tondera, Craig Bartko - February 05, 2025 at 04:44 PM

JB

“ *Jen Tondera, Todd Tondera, Craig Bartko planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Karen Elizabeth Stein.*

Jen Tondera, Todd Tondera, Craig Bartko - February 05, 2025 at 04:44 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Karen Elizabeth Stein.*



February 05, 2025 at 03:31 PM

LW

“ *Our sympathy to your family. Karen was always so welcoming and kind to everyone. She would always be friendly and smiling when I would see her at GenaCross. So very sorry for your loss.*



Lila WERNECKE - February 05, 2025 at 12:00 PM

TF

“ *The Doucette Family purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Karen Elizabeth Stein.*



The Doucette Family - February 05, 2025 at 09:14 AM

PD

“ I was a teachers aide at Filling home working with Karen. She was a wonderful woman who cared greatly for her students. I continued to work with mentally handicapped people the rest of my career thanks to what Karen taught me.



Patti Davis - February 04, 2025 at 07:52 PM

LM

“ Karen was always a positive force supporting her daughters and her students. It was an honor to know & work with her.

LeAnn Moser - February 04, 2025 at 04:52 PM

CS

“ Christopher Scarberry lit a candle in memory of Karen Stein



Christopher Scarberry - February 04, 2025 at 03:35 PM

CS

“ she was my teacher, and my friend and was a good teacher

Christopher Scarberry - February 04, 2025 at 03:34 PM



“ *Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Karen Elizabeth Stein.*



February 04, 2025 at 01:53 PM