



## Karen Jean Blackmer

October 1, 1938 - August 12, 2016

Karen Jean Blackmer of Cadillac passed away Friday, August 12, 2016 at her home. She was 77.

Karen was born October 1, 1938 in Grand Rapids, Michigan to Neal H. and Catherine L. (Popma) DeKoster and they preceded her in death.

She graduated from Grand Rapids Catholic Central High School in 1957 and later graduated from Mercy School of Nursing in Cadillac. Karen started her career as a Licensed Practical Nurse at Butterworth Hospital in Grand Rapids. On July 1, 1961 in Grand Rapids she married Frederick C. Blackmer and they moved to Cadillac where she worked at Mercy Hospital in Cadillac for over 40 years.

Karen's greatest love was spending time with her children, grandchildren and great grandchild. She enjoyed skiing, going to beach, traveling, listening to jazz music played by her friends and family reunions at Silver Lake. Karen was a member of St. Ann Catholic Church and was active with the St. Bernadette's circle there. She was a member of the Cadillac Elks Lodge.

She is survived by her husband of 55 years, Fred; children: Frederick C. (Eileen) Blackmer, II of Rochester, Michigan, Susan (James) Roberts of Louisville, Colorado, Michael Blackmer of Cadillac; grandchildren: Andrew,

Shelby, Libby, William; great grandson, Carson; brother, Ben (Lynn)DeKoster of British Columbia and many nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents she was preceded in death by a sister, Bonnie Warford.

The memorial mass will be held 11:00 AM Friday, August 19, 2016 at St. Ann Catholic Church in Cadillac with Reverend Father Bryan Medlin as celebrant. Friends may meet the family at church from 10:00 AM until time of mass.

Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of Michigan or American Cancer Society for Hope Lodge in Grand Rapids. An online guestbook is available at [www.petersonfh.com](http://www.petersonfh.com).

# Tribute Wall

TB

“ sending my sincere sympathy to Karen's family and friends. She was a spitfire and loved to have a great time any time. RIP and suffer no longer.

Toni Boughner - August 17, 2016 at 10:37 AM

JC

“ I am sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with your family.

Jeff Clark - August 17, 2016 at 08:58 AM

MS

“ Karen was a force to be reckoned with. My thoughts and prayers are with you.

Melissa Sluiter - August 15, 2016 at 10:10 PM

AH

“ So sorry for your loss.

Alyssa and Bob Hoffman - August 15, 2016 at 07:59 PM

DT

“ Thank you, Queen Mother, for all the wonderful times we all had in our Red Hat group. You were so very kind and loving to my Mother. You loved to have fun and enjoyed being with people. I will miss you, but I know you are Up There (with my mom) having a great time and suffering no longer. My sympathies to her loving family.

Diana Thomas - August 15, 2016 at 04:43 PM

TF

“ We’  
re so sorry for your loss.

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**Tony and Jennifer Fuzi** - August 15, 2016 at 02:32 PM

MO

“ We want to extend our sincere sympathy to Fred and the family in the loss of a dear friend of mine...Karen and I worked together at Mercy for over 40 years and have great memories...also want to extend my sincere sympathy to Mary Jo Canfield in the loss of her dear friend, Karen...be assured of our thoughts and prayers....

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**Marian and Don Ouwinga** - August 15, 2016 at 02:23 PM

AD

“ I was saddened to read about the death of Karen DeKoster Blackmer. She was a classmate of mine at CCHS- 1957. She was a delightful and caring person and always ready for some fun! Karen was elected Homecoming Queen by the students for the Class of 1957.  
My prayers and thoughts go out to her family.

*Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon her. May her soul and the souls of all the faithfully departed especially those from CCHS Class of 1957, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen*

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**Alice Derezinski Donahue** - August 15, 2016 at 01:13 PM

DB

“ Sympathies to the family of a positive lady who was a ray of sunshine to all.

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**Daniel Brooks** - August 15, 2016 at 07:45 AM

MS

“ *Great memories of a wonderful lady! I am so very sorry for your loss.*

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**Mary Ann Spurgeon** - August 14, 2016 at 11:52 PM

CT

“ *We're so sorry for your loss.*

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**Carol and Nelson Torrey** - August 14, 2016 at 07:42 PM

NB

“ *Fond memories of Mercy Hospital days. Sincere sympathy to Fred & all who loved her.*

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**Nella Bode** - August 14, 2016 at 02:16 PM

JL

“ *Very nice lady. Always a pleasure to see and talk with. Prayers and sympathy to the family.*

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**Jerry and Diane Leavell** - August 14, 2016 at 01:21 PM

HW

“ *Sincere sympathy in the loss of your loved one.*

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**Helen and Bob Whipple** - August 13, 2016 at 07:19 PM