



Karen A Serle-Rufo

November 4, 1951 - June 17, 2016

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Karen Ann Serle - Rufo, age 64, of St. Augustine, passed away on June 17, 2016 at her home with her family by her side. She was born in Trenton, N.J. and grew up in Hamilton Township, N.J, where she graduated from Hamilton High School with the class of 1969. Karen received an A.A. degree from Mercer Community College, where she studied to become a paralegal. She went on to work as a paralegal for the Trenton Public Defenders office for 8 years. She lived in Matawan but still continued to work as a paralegal for a law firm in Newark, N.J. Later in life Karen got her real estate license and worked in Freehold, N.J. in real estate sales. She was very talented in sales and managed several weight loss clinics including Jenny Craig and Nutrisystem. Beyond her various careers and more importantly, Karen was a creative, fun loving and beautiful woman. Her smile could light up a room and her laughter was infectious. She had many friends, some of whom she has known since she was 3 years old, and other wonderful friendships that were formed upon moving to St. Augustine. Karen loved the fine arts and was a talented amateur painter and decorator. She loved all kinds of culture and especially enjoyed Broadway plays. Karen loved travel and fine dining and visited many destinations around the world. She loved animals especially her Soft-Coated Wheaton Terrier, Abbey. She was happiest when surrounded by family and good friends. She loved her two children and five grandchildren very much.

They were the light of her life. Karen and her husband have been seasonal residents in St. Augustine since 2007 and made their home here in 2011. She attended Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church and was involved with the food pantry and other charitable ministries. Karen was a devoted wife who loved her husband very much. They were lovers, best friends and soulmates. Karen was a loving mother, grandmother (Mimi), sister and friend to many. She will be deeply missed. She is survived by her husband, Tom Rufo of St. Augustine; daughter, Vanessa Finn (James) of Wall, N.J.; son, Anthony Serle (Jennifer) of St. Augustine; sister, Arlene Johnson of Hamilton Township, N.J.; grandchildren, Evin, Anthony, Marlee, James, and Hannah. A memorial mass will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, June 24, 2016 at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church. A Celebration of Life Service will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, July 17, 2016 at Raven and the Peach Restaurant, 740 River Road, Fair Haven, New Jersey 07704. St. Johns Family Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Tribute Wall

AM

“ Karen, it is with a sad and heavy heart that I try to comprehend that you are now among the most beautiful, smart, loving and caring Angels God has ever had in his care. I love and miss so much about your presence on earth. My loyal, funny, sweet friend, we had so much fun raising our 'girls!' You were truly "Heaven Sent"! :) Anna

Anna S. Mayer - July 08, 2016 at 12:00 AM

GJ

“ Tom I am so sorry to hear of Karen's passing. I know you worked tirelessly to get her the best care possible.

Gia Johnson - July 01, 2016 at 12:00 AM

AJ

“ I am so sorry. She was an amazing friend and person. Love, Amy

Amy Johnston - June 22, 2016 at 12:00 AM

EF

“ Tom and family....I am so sorry for your loss. Karen was a beautiful person with a bright smile and always so friendly. I remember well the first time I met her when she came into our office. We discovered that we both were from Jersey, and both lived in Matawan too. She will be missed.

Elissa Fraipont - June 22, 2016 at 12:00 AM

HO

“ I am so sorry for your loss Tom, Vanessa, Anthony, Arlene and family! Karen was a joy to get to know better these past few years. I'm blessed to call her my cousin. My hearts go out to you!

Holly Oachs - June 21, 2016 at 12:00 AM