



## Karen B. Watko

June 29, 1953 - May 5, 2025

Karen (Stubner) Watko passed away in the Community Hospice in St Augustine, Florida on May 5, 2025.

Born and raised in Danbury, CT, a first generation child of European immigrants, Karen Watko loved skiing, animals, music, singing, travelling, nature, sailing, and always looked on the bright side of life.. She shared a very happy life with her husband and best friend, Timothy Watko, for the last 41 years.

Karen was actively involved in, and sat on the board of numerous organizations in the Danbury area, that were her passion.

A caring, generous, and modest person, Karen knew how to always create exciting adventures with her family and friends. Splitting her time between her homes in CT, VT, and FL she kept a very active career and fulfilling life with her husband.

She was an high honors graduate of Immaculate High School and received her Bachelor degree from Western Connecticut State College, and was fluent in several languages.

Karen is predeceased by her parents, Marga and Guenther Stubner of

Danbury, CT.

She is survived by her husband, Timothy Watko; her daughter, Dr. Stephanie Watko (Jenner), of Hastings, FL; her sister, Heidi Stubner, of NYC, as well as many brothers and sisters-in-law, cousins, and several nieces and nephews. Along with her loyal dog, Guinness, she also leaves behind a vast family of furry “grandchildren”, large and small, living on her daughter’s farm.

A private family celebration of life will be held at a later date.

Donations in Karen’s memory may be made to the Lucy Mackenzie Humane Society ([lucymac.org](http://lucymac.org)).

# Cemetery Details

## **St Johns Crematory**

385 State Road 207  
Saint Augustine, FL 32084

# Tribute Wall



“ Dear Tim Stephanie and Heidi,

*Karen was a kind and loyal friend and neighbor to us all in Snug Harbor. We still talk fondly of all of you all of these years later.*

*Sincere condolences to you all*

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**Mich Atwood** - October 27, 2025 at 01:40 PM

AD

“ Dear Tim , Steph & Heidi , So sorry to hear of Karen's passing . . . such a bright light and pleasure to be around at St. Greg's !! Dr. Stephe !!, Florida Vet., so proud Karen was of you accomplishments ! Again, Tim , Stephe & Heidi, sorry for your loss. Ruhe In Freden, Al DaSilva

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**Al DaSilva** - May 30, 2025 at 11:16 PM

HS

*Thank you so much for your words, Al.*

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**Heidi Stubner** - June 03, 2025 at 01:01 AM

MZ

“ To Karen's family, I am so sorry to hear of the passing of Karen. We shared so many memories together in my early teens when she was my Manager at Sears in Danbury. We belonged to St Gregory's and had many wonderful times there. She was one of a kind. Wonderful sense of humor, so much passion and love for her family. Until we meet again may God hold you in the palm of his hand.

*Much Love, Mary Fedigan Zarcone*

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**Mary Fedigan Zarcone** - May 30, 2025 at 07:56 AM

HS

*Thank you, Mary. Karen spoke so fondly of you many times. Best wishes. Heidi and family.*

Heidi Stubner - June 03, 2025 at 01:04 AM

KO

“ *Tim & family. I am very sorry to hear of Karen's passing. My condolences to the entire family.*



Kyle Oberndorfer - May 27, 2025 at 03:52 PM

HS

*Thank you, Kyle.*

Heidi Stubner - June 03, 2025 at 01:05 AM

CP

“ *Dear Tim, Stephanie and Family,  
We are so sorry for your loss of such a dynamo and all-out wonderful human that Karen was in every area of her life!  
Karen was such a hardworking Saint Greg's volunteer and beloved -  
- and again-- super hardworking member of the Danbury Music Center's Board and concert choir!! She also had a beautiful voice that fit perfectly with her beautiful spirit. You have our sympathy and our prayers. I'm sure Karen's love will continue to embrace you; she was so proud of you, Steph!!  
Sincerely,  
Cathie & Philip Petrosky*

Cathie Petrosky - May 27, 2025 at 11:50 AM

HS

*Thank you, Cathie and Philip for you kind words about Karen. She is missed very much. Heidi and family.*

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**Heidi Stubner** - June 03, 2025 at 01:07 AM

CW

“*Dear Stephanie and family , Im so sorry to hear about Karen , I have many fond memories of Karen starting before Stephanie was born , I so enjoyed her and miss hearing about Stephanie and the animals, she'd show me all the pics and stories and we would laugh so hard , Im so sad to hear this, she really was so kind , sending my deepest condolences and prayers , may she rest in peace 🙏*

*Sincerely,*

*Cindy Williams  
Brookfield Ct*

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**Cynthia Williams** - May 20, 2025 at 08:40 AM

HS

*Dear Cindy. Thank you for your kind words and sharing about Karen. Heidi and family.*

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**Heidi Stubner** - May 25, 2025 at 09:54 AM

DC

“ To Karen’s entire family:  
I was saddened to read, in today’s (Danbury) News-Times, of the passing of Karen. She always had a wonderful way about her, and a smile that would light up a room, wherever she was. I too have lost a good friend. My sympathies are with you all.  
May she rest in peace. 🙏

Sincerely,

David M. Coelho  
Danbury, CT

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David Coelho - May 19, 2025 at 08:29 PM

HS

Thank yo for your kind words, Dave. This is a great loss for our family.  
Heidi

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Heidi Stubner - May 20, 2025 at 12:06 AM

KB

“ Tim and Steph, so very sorry to learn of Karen’s passing. We spent many a day together at St Greg’s, Karen was always a hard worker who took pride in her work. I remember you sailing on Candlewood as well. I send my deepest condolences, Kathy Boggan

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Kate Boggan - May 19, 2025 at 01:06 PM