



## Karen J. Dunham

August 16, 1941 - February 14, 2022

Karen J. Dunham, 80, of Central City, Nebraska died Monday, February 14, 2022 at her home. Funeral services will be Friday, February 18, 2022 at 10:30 a.m. at St. Michael's Catholic Church with Father David Fulton officiating. Visitation will be Thursday, February 17, 2022 from 5 to 7 p.m. with a Vigil at 7 p.m. at the church. Burial will be in the Central City Cemetery.

Memorials are suggested to the family to be designated later and condolences can be sent to the family at [www.soltwagnerfuneral.com](http://www.soltwagnerfuneral.com).

Karen was born on August 16, 1941 to Walter and Josephine (Shemek) Kluck in Grand Island, Nebraska. She grew up in the Clarks area and graduated from Clarks High School in 1959. She remained in Clarks and worked for Clarks Grain as a bookkeeper. She married Richard Dunham on December 2, 1961 in Clarks. The couple then moved to Central City where Karen was the Deputy Treasurer. Richard went into the Military and Karen took a break from her Treasury job to raise her two sons- Gary and James. She later returned to the Treasurer's Office under Jim Heins and later Deputy Treasurer under Murena Meyer. Karen was then elected as the Merrick County Treasurer and remained in that position for many years, until her retirement in 2013.

Karen was a member of St. Michael's Catholic Church in Central City and the Royal Neighbors of America. She was affiliated with the Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts when raising her sons. She enjoyed traveling to Vegas, sewing, and collectibles. Her greatest joy was spending time with her grandchildren.

She is survived by two sons- Gary Dunham of Omaha, NE; and James

(Monica) Dunham of Aurora, NE; two grandchildren- Bryan Dunham of Central City, NE; and Katie Dunham of Aurora, NE; one sister- Mary Pollard of Grand Island, NE.

Karen was preceded in death by her parents; her husband- Richard; sister- Donna Steinke; brother- Robert Kluck.

# Cemetery Details

## Central City Cemetery

Central City, NE 68826

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB 17. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

St. Michael's Catholic Church  
2004 24th St  
Central City, NE 68826

## Vigil Service

FEB 17. 7:00 PM - 7:30 PM (CT)

St. Michael's Catholic Church  
2004 24th St  
Central City, NE 68826

## Mass of Christian Burial

FEB 18. 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM (CT)

St. Michael's Catholic Church  
2004 24th St  
Central City, NE 68826

# Tribute Wall

CW

“ I have some great memories of going to the Dunham house after school almost every day. We would hang out watching TV and we would clean out the cookie jar in the kitchen. It always seemed to get refilled. Many years later I would chat with Karen at the Treasurer's office she would ask about my wife and kids generally getting caught up with my life. As I would leave her office she would always say "Hey you need to bring your kids over to my house, my cookie jar is overflowing and needs to get cleaned out". A little piece of my heart broke today reading about Karen's passing. She was the sweetest lady in this world and we put her to the test sometimes. She will be missed but never forgotten. My deepest sympathy to Gary, James and family.

*Chuck Wagner*

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**Chuck Wagner** - February 15, 2022 at 07:25 PM

DG

“ Karen and I had so much making mints together for the Cub Scouts Blue and gold banquet. Over the year we made hundreds.

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**Donna M Grimes** - February 15, 2022 at 06:20 PM

SH

“ My sympathy to Karen's family. She was a nice, friendly woman. I am sure she will be greatly missed by many.

*Sonia Holbrook*

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**Sonia Holbrook** - February 15, 2022 at 03:49 PM

LF

“ I spent a lot of time at the Dunham house and shared many fun times with Karen, Gary, and Jim. My thoughts are with Gary and Jim at this sad time.

*Laurie (Peck) Frick*

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**Laurie (Peck) Frick** - February 15, 2022 at 03:02 PM