



Karen Mills

September 24, 1944 - January 3, 2024

Karen Lynn Grigsby Mills, 79, passed away peacefully on January 3, 2024 at her home in Glendive. Karen was born in Glendive at the old NP Hospital to Durell (“Pete”) and Delsie Grigsby on September 24, 1944. She was the second of three children, with an older sister Sharon and a younger brother Fred. She grew up on a farm northeast of Bloomfield where she attended country school through the 8th grade. In 1959, the family moved from the farm into town so that Sharon and Karen could attend high school in Glendive. Karen graduated from DCHS in 1962.

Karen fell in love with Gordon Mills after she spent a romantic first date with him watching drag races in Lewistown in August of 1965. They were married in 1966 and were together in life’s adventures ever since. During their 57 years of marriage, they raised three wonderful sons – J.R., Rod, and Ryan. The kids and grandkids were able to visit often, which she thoroughly enjoyed. Karen supported and actively participated in all the auto-enthusiast adventures that Gordon pursued, including the Glendive drag races and the Badlands Drifters Car Club. She worked in administrative support and as a bookkeeper in Glendive for the majority of her life and used those skills to help support her family and the car club for almost 30 years.

Not only was Karen a wonderful wife for Gordon, but she was also an incredible mother for her boys. She attended every event she possibly could that her boys were involved in. She was the “unofficial” scorekeeper of hundreds of baseball games. She demonstrated the incredible patience and

love required to raise three boys. Karen was thrilled to get three daughters that came into the family already raised--she loved her three daughter-in-law's and truly appreciated all that they brought to the family to support her and her boys.

Karen was preceded in death by her parents, Pete and Delsie Grigsby; and her sister, Sharon Sampson.

Karen is survived by her husband Gordon; brother Fred; sons J.R. (Kirsten) of Westminster, CO, Rod (Shelly) of Nampa, ID, Ryan (Raquel) of Draper, UT; and four grandchildren – Evan & Rylan, Jenna & Josh.

The family would like to thank the “angels” that provided so much support for Karen, especially Dr. Joan “Mutt” Dickson, the hospice staff, and the great staff at GMC.

The family would like to give a special thanks to Dr. Dickson who was with Karen to the very end. Her care and compassion provided tremendous relief for the family. There are no words that are adequate to thank Dr. Dickson. Doctor's in rural communities are desperately needed, especially doctors that not only practice medicine, but also practice compassion and support for the people within their care. In order to support Dr. Dickson, and hopefully fuel more rural Montana doctors, we request anyone that feels compelled to donate to the Nicholas G. Ward, M.D. Endowed Scholarship Fund at <https://give.uwmedicine.org/give>.

A Life Tribute service will be held at 11:00 AM on Friday, May 31, 2024 at the Silha Funeral Home in Glendive with Celebrant Heidi Carney officiating.

Interment will follow in the Dawson Memorial Cemetery in Glendive. Silha Funeral Home of Glendive has been entrusted with the arrangements.

In lieu of flowers or gifts, the family requests that donations be made to the Nicholas G Ward, MD Endowed Scholarship Fund at <https://give.uwmedicine.org/give> to help Montana UW students with their education, in hopes they will return to Montana to practice medicine.

Remembrances and condolences can be shared with the family at: www.silhafuneralhomes.com.

Cemetery Details

Dawson Memorial Cemetery

2816 West Towne Street
Glendive, MT 59330

Previous Events

Life Tribute Service

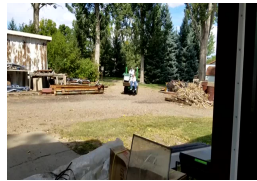
MAY 31. 11:00 AM (MT)

Silha Funeral Homes - Glendive, Montana
221 N. Meade Avenue
P.O. Box 848
Glendive, MT 59330
(406) 377-2622
silha@midrivers.com
<https://www.silhafuneralhomes.com>

Tribute Wall



“ 56 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Silha Funeral Home - May 30, 2024 at 01:20 PM

NK

“ *NANCY KORB lit a candle in memory of Karen Mills*



NANCY KORB - May 28, 2024 at 09:07 AM

DS

“ *Denise Stoddart lit a candle in memory of Karen Mills*



Denise Stoddart - May 26, 2024 at 08:46 PM

KK

“ Gary and I are so sorry to hear of Karen’s passing...we had some great times going to the drag races! Our thoughts go out to her family.

Gary and Karen Kampschorr
Lake Havasu City, Az.

Karen Kampschorr - February 05, 2024 at 11:39 PM

GG

“ I’m sorry to hear of Karen’s passing, Gordy. I remember her as one of our friendliest and nicest classmates.

Gary Graves - January 31, 2024 at 03:05 PM

DH

“ Thank you for all your help and friendship with my family..You will be missed.All my condolences to Gordy and the family..

Dustin Hoffer - January 21, 2024 at 07:31 PM

BK

“ Bill Kickert lit a candle in memory of Karen Mills



Bill Kickert - January 17, 2024 at 12:29 AM

LM

“ Gordy, we are so sorry for your loss. Thinking of you and your family. Larry and Linda McLeod

Linda McLeod - January 15, 2024 at 11:42 PM

JG

“ Sympathy to the Gordy Mills family. Karen was such a friendly loving lady. She will be missed.

Judy Freeman Green - January 12, 2024 at 10:50 AM

MT

“ I'm so sorry, such a huge loss! Karen will was a wonderful lady and I have so many memories! I like to think my mom was standing at the gates of Heaven waiting with open arms to welcome her sister!

Marni Thomas - January 11, 2024 at 10:00 PM

WB

“ Gordy and family, so sorry for your loss, our thoughts are with you.

Warren broeder - January 11, 2024 at 07:21 PM

RD

“ Ron Doll lit a candle in memory of Karen Mills



Ron MJ Doll - January 11, 2024 at 01:48 PM

MS

“ Gordy and family, So sorry for your loss. Mel Sampson



Mel and Kathy Sampson - January 10, 2024 at 01:46 PM

MS

“ Gordiy and family, we extend our deepest thoughts and prayers to you. she was a pistol, and I enjoyed our conversation so much. never a dull moment with Karen. She always knew how to make you laugh. What a beautiful angel heaven has received!

Mike & Jacky Boje Saur - January 10, 2024 at 09:52 AM

GS

“ Gordy and family
Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your families. So sorry to hear about Karen.

Gordy and Judy Schmitt - January 10, 2024 at 01:29 AM

KS

“ Karen Schock lit a candle in memory of Karen Mills



Karen Schock - January 09, 2024 at 09:56 PM

SD

“ Gordian and boys, I am so sorry you have lost Karen. I am sending you all my hugs and prayers as you face the days ahead.

Sherilyn Senner Danielson - January 09, 2024 at 05:07 PM

RS

“ Gordy and boys sorry for the loss of Karen Tom and Rose Samapson

ROSE SAMPSON - January 09, 2024 at 12:29 PM

BS

“ *Bob Kristie Stanhope lit a candle in memory of Karen Mills*



Bob & Kristie Stanhope - January 09, 2024 at 07:37 AM

JJ

“ *jane jarvis lit a candle in memory of Karen Mills*



jane jarvis - January 08, 2024 at 10:06 PM

GK

“ *gerhard Kron sent a virtual gift in memory of Karen Mills*



gerhard Kron - January 08, 2024 at 12:28 AM

MS

“ *Mike Jacky Saur sent a virtual gift in memory of Karen Mills*



Mike & Jacky Saur - January 07, 2024 at 09:24 PM

MK

“Gordy and family... Curt and I wish to extend our condolences to you. We sure loved and admired Karen. She always had such great advice. We will miss her. Hugs. Curt and Melissa

Melissa Knudson - January 07, 2024 at 09:03 PM

TK

“Gordon and Mills family..sorry to hear the passing of Karen..May her Light, always Shine Bright!!!!

Terry Knapp - January 07, 2024 at 08:44 PM

TK

“Terry Knapp lit a candle in memory of Karen Mills



Terry Knapp - January 07, 2024 at 08:43 PM

LF

“So sorry for your loss.



Linda Frank - January 07, 2024 at 11:30 AM

TD

“Gordy and family~ I'm sorry for your loss of Karen. My thoughts and prayers are with you.



Tammy Dey - January 06, 2024 at 11:41 PM

DS

“Gordy and Family, we will all miss your beautiful Karen. What a very special lady. May God wrap you all in his loving arms to help you through this difficult time.
Jim and Donna Stanfill

Donna Stanfill - January 06, 2024 at 04:29 PM

JL

“I considered Karen one of my special friends. She will be missed very much. I'm thinking of all of Karen's family in the coming days & weeks. ❤️



janette Legayo - January 06, 2024 at 02:29 PM

RA

“Gordy and family, please know that we are keeping you in our thoughts and prayers as you navigate these coming days. Karen was a very special person and will be greatly missed. Hugs to you all.

Rolly and Barb Anvik - January 06, 2024 at 11:29 AM

DC

“ *Diane Crockett sent a virtual gift in memory of Karen Mills*



Diane Crockett - January 05, 2024 at 09:19 PM

EE

“ *Gordy and family
So sorry to hear about Karen. You are in my thoughts and prayers
Eileen Entzel*

Eileen Entzel - January 05, 2024 at 05:15 PM

ET

“ *Gordy and family we are so sorry for the loss of Karen. She was a special person and will be missed. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.*



ED and Noreen Turnquist - January 05, 2024 at 10:52 AM

GK

“ *Grace Koffler lit a candle in memory of Karen Mills*



Grace Koffler - January 05, 2024 at 10:05 AM

BT

“ MJ I'm sorry for the loss of your sister! Cherish your Memories.
Becky (Chouinard) Tipton

Becky Tipton - January 04, 2024 at 11:17 PM

KW

Becky this is not MJ's sister. This was Fred Grigsby's sister.

Karen Wallace - January 05, 2024 at 11:57 AM

KW

“ One of my fondest memories of Karen was her coming to the Hustlers Drag Races with a car full of rambunctious boys. We enjoyed our car trips together & will miss her laugh & friendship. Gordy, JR, Rod & Ryan your devotion to her was unfailing. Our deepest sympathies to you & your families.
Wilbur & Karen Wallace

Karen Wallace - January 04, 2024 at 03:23 PM

PZ

Gordy and family, our sincere condolences to you. I always enjoyed seeing Karen and having a nice visit with her. Hugs.

Penny Zimmerman - January 05, 2024 at 09:17 AM

MK

“ *Mary Kutzler lit a candle in memory of Karen Mills*



Mary Kutzler - January 04, 2024 at 01:37 PM

RB

“ My heartfelt sympathy Gordy and family! Karen was always full of spunk and spirit. May God give you strength & peace at this difficult time.

Rosemary Baldwin - January 04, 2024 at 01:20 PM

KP

“ Our deepest condolences to the Mills family. So many memories from such a kindhearted woman. Hugs and Prayers for you all.



Kelly and Ginger Pulse - January 04, 2024 at 11:49 AM

PW

“ Gordy and Boys.
I'm so sorry. I had lots of smiles and tears last night remembering all of our escapades.
Prayers to all of you.
Pam

Pam Wagner - January 04, 2024 at 10:27 AM

CP

“ Condolences to all the family & dear friends. Cherish the many fond memories!

Cherise Patterson - January 03, 2024 at 11:05 PM

CD

“ Karen was a beautiful person. So sorry for losing her.

Crockett Diane - January 03, 2024 at 08:50 PM

CD

“ Crockett Diane lit a candle in memory of Karen Mills



Crockett Diane - January 03, 2024 at 08:49 PM

DD

“ Gordy and family, We hope the love of family and friends will give you comfort through such tough times. ❤️

Dan and Donna Dobson - January 03, 2024 at 07:56 PM