



Karen Ronczka Crespan

May 26, 1955 - February 3, 2004

Karen Crespan, 48, of New Britain, beloved wife of Edward Crespan, died unexpectedly Tuesday February 3, 2004 at New Britain General Hospital. A New Britain native and lifelong resident, she is the daughter of Edward and Marion Rollins Ronczka of New Britain. A graduate of New Britain High School, Class of 1973, she was a member of First Lutheran Church in New Britain; was vice-president of the New Britain High School Girls Softball Booster Club and was extremely active in the New Britain High School Parents Music Association; PTO and High School All Night Graduation Party. A very talented crafts person and cook, Karen was a mother to all, especially those in need.

Besides her husband and parents, she leaves a son, Brian Crespan and two daughters, Elizabeth "Lizzy" Crespan and Melissa "Missy" Crespan, all of New Britain. She is also survived by two brothers, William Pavano and his wife Sandi of New Britain; and Robert Pavano and his wife Kathy of Nashua, NH; her in-laws, Mario and Connie Crespan of Bloomfield; several nieces, nephews, and many best friends including a special friend, Joanne Brochu and her husband Norman of New Britain.

Funeral services will be held Friday 11 AM at First Lutheran Church, 77 Franklin Square, New Britain, followed by burial in Fairview Cemetery. Calling hours will be held Thursday TODAY 4 to 8 PM at Carlson Funeral Home, 45 Franklin Square, New Britain. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to NBHS Parents Music Association or NBHS Girls Softball Booster Club, 50 Mill

Street, New Britain, CT 06051. Please share a memory of Karen with her family on our online guestbook by clicking on "Tribute" at the bottom of the page.

Tribute Wall

GI

“ Karen was a mother to all of us; you will be missed but never forgotten.
The growing up was allot easier thanks to you.
Gizmo

Gizmo - September 20, 2016 at 12:01 AM

DD

“ Well i am finally bringing myself to write in here. I guess reality has finally hit me. I have been spending alot of time over at the crespian household and I find myself doing things for ed and the kids the way karen did things for me when I was lizzys age. Karen has raised 3 unbelievably respectful intellegent and gorgeous kids. Each one of them always finds a way to make me laugh everyday. They all have a piece of karen in them. I will always remember the crazy stuff karen and I did over all the years we have known each other. Our memories will forever be in my heart and i will miss her dearly.
xoxoxoxo

Denise Dezi - September 20, 2016 at 12:01 AM

JP

“ When I learned of Karen's passing, it gave me pause to remember fondly our high school days shared with Maureen Skrypek and Debbie Luisi. Karen had such a wry, funny sense of humor. We spent many a weekend hanging out at the "Y" and various other places. I am so sorry for your loss. Karen was wonderfully honest, sincere, and true.

Janice Dowsett Potter - September 20, 2016 at 12:01 AM

BJ

“ *Mrs C. was a wonderful person. There are certain people you will never forget in life, and she tops many lists. Something about the way she loved the kids made her extra special, and she always put herself before others. Because of these qualities, I am grateful and honored to say that I knew her, and blessed to call her a friend.*

Thanks for always making me look sharp before each and every football game Mrs C.

*Love,
Brian*

Brian Jehning - September 20, 2016 at 12:01 AM

BZ

“ *I can't find the words to express my sympathy for your loss. Karen was a great person who always made me laugh. No matter what we did at Holy Cross we had fun. You will be missed by all.*
Always, Barbara

Barbara Zapor - September 20, 2016 at 12:01 AM

DS

“ Ed, Brian, Missy and Lizzy,
Of all the names that ever pass our lips when the name Karen Crespan was mention all anyone could do was smile. We know how giving and warm and what a sence of humor she had that it would light any room. Karen made life and any chore in it fun. My fondest memories were being a part of her life through out Holy Cross Home and School Association Tee-ball, Prayer through dance and countless hours through school plays. Children and adults respected Karen and we will all be better people because she has touched our lives. Karen was first in line to help others in need. Ryan has his own memories of Karen and one of them was how she would always kiss him on his birthday because it was the same as hers. His struggle to get away was priceless as Karen had this big grin on her face knowing she embarrassed him. Of course as he got older he was harder to catch and she would threaten I'll get you later. Ryan avoided her through out the day. I'm sorry you all have to experience this at such young ages. Karen was and will always be loved by Ryan and I.

Diane and Ryan Santee - September 20, 2016 at 12:01 AM

AJ

“ DEAR ED AND KIDS
WE ARE SO SORRY ABOUT YOUR LOSS. I WILL PRAY FOR HER.

ALBERT & JUDY - September 20, 2016 at 12:01 AM

CN

“ Ed,Brian, Missy& Lizzy-I am so sorry for your loss. I was very shocked and heartbroken to hear what happened. Remember she is always looking over you and treasure all of the memories you had with Her. Karen-I don't know where to start. You were such a huge part of my life while I was growing up. You were truly a 2nd mother to me for all of those years I lived next door to you in New Britain. Our families shared many good times and laughs. You were always so kind, inviting and friendly-thank you for that. I will miss you very much and will see you one day. Love always, Christine

Christine Napierkowski - September 20, 2016 at 12:01 AM

BS

“ Karen and I are cousins so we've known each other our whole lives. I always knew what a caring person she was. If asked to make 1 dozen cupcakes, Karen was the type to make 3 dozen!! It was wonderful to hear such heartwarming stories about her. We've always lived at least 150 miles apart so I knew her, but not in the daily sense that her friends from New Britain did. She will certainly be missed by many for her caring ways.....

Barbara Skillman - September 20, 2016 at 12:01 AM

AH

“ Mrs.Crespan,
Where to start? you were like a mother to all including me. All those times you would make me laugh and have a good time, making me always happy when i see you, you were always making me laugh. There is one question why was it you? Im sure theres a reason but we will never know. You already know youy are missed by so many that we cant even put it in word how much we love you!Missed greatly!

Alyssa Holly - September 20, 2016 at 12:01 AM

CO

“ Karen, you were like a mother to all of us. I cannot think of a time in my life where I went more than 2 weeks without talking to you. Although I miss you now, I take comfort in the fact that I can still talk to you through prayer and the love you have given to all. I speak for all the Coombs family when I say the world will not be the same without you. Not just for those of us that you took into her family, but for those that never had the chance to call you their second mother. Ed, Brian, Liz, Missy: You know that I will do anything I can to help you guys carry on the memory of Karen. Both my parents and myself are just a phone call away if you ever need anything.

Coombsie - September 20, 2016 at 12:01 AM

FF

“ Thank you for all the wonderful memories. You will never truly be gone.

Ferrer Family - September 20, 2016 at 12:01 AM

BW

“ It was a pleasure to have known you. I will never forget our trip to North Carolina and of course the "Picnic Table". I only knew you for a short time but you touched my life. You will be missed.

Barbara Wolf - September 20, 2016 at 12:01 AM

PE

“ Ed,
I just heard about Karen today 2/6 and just wanted to let you know i'm very sorry.

Peter

Peter Elovich - September 20, 2016 at 12:01 AM

SM

“ Karen, you are forever Red & Gold to us. We will be looking for Karen at every parade, every game, concert, cake sale & car wash. We will hear her shout out to us, we will turn around, but she will not be there in the physical sense....her heart-beat always for the kids, so there above it all with a pom pom in her hand she will still be rooting her wonderful children on, still rooting our children along their paths, and watching over all of those special moments in life that would have made her so proud.....we loved Karen for who she was...you just had to!

Ed, Brian, Missy & Lizzie - as you Wife and Mom always extended herself and gave her support to our family, we extend all the love and support we can give to yours.

*With our deepest Sympathy,
The Lorch Family*

Sheree & Richard, Mike, Meg & Matt - September 20, 2016 at 12:01 AM

SK

“ Karen, I had the privilege of meeting you three years ago when Lizzy and Danielle attended St. Francis School. Will never forget our talks while making lunch for the students. You will be missed.

sharon krackowsky - September 20, 2016 at 12:01 AM

CF

“ When I looked in the New Britain Herald obituaries, which is something I do all the time now. I looked at Karen's picture and realized before I read her profile that I knew her. I haven't seen Karen in a very long time, but I want to let you know what a wonderful person she was even as a child. I went to Chamberlain Elementary School in New Britain, and so did Karen. I had and still have optic nerve atrophy.in Elementary School. Karen was someone that would help me in the early years. I wish there were more Karen's in the world. You should be very proud of your daughter, wife and mother. She was there for me whsn I needed someone.

Childhood Friend - September 20, 2016 at 12:01 AM

JF

“ Dear Eddie,
I am so sorry to hear about Karen's sudden passing. My thoughts and prayers go out to you and your family.
May your hearts find healing in the day, weeks, and months ahead. I am so sorry. Sincerely, Janice Frank Weinstein

Janice Weinstein Frank - September 20, 2016 at 12:01 AM

AL

“ i remember karen from baseball, helping her and kelly with the consession she will be sadly missed my prayers are with all of you

alyssa - September 20, 2016 at 12:01 AM

AC

“ I never got a chance to fully know Karen, but what I remember most is before every football game I would see her and she would say "Hey hun!" and make me smile no matter how bad of a mood I was in. During the games she would sit with my brother and when we would get home he would always say "Damn, that lady is cool." She was never afraid to lend a helping hand or even just listen to your problems no matter who you were and if she knew you or not. Everybody that knew her knows that she is still watching over and smiling down upon them. She was truly an angel on earth and has just moved on to a greater place, heaven.

Amanda Ciervo - September 20, 2016 at 12:01 AM

ML

“ Karen, we feel privileged to have known and loved you. Your thoughtful and caring ways had a profound effect on so many people and your quick wit brought a smile to everyone. You will live on in our hearts forever. ~May you rest in peace~

Ed, Brian, Lizzie & Missy...we are deeply saddened for your loss.

Buddy & Maureen

Maureen Lechowicz - September 20, 2016 at 12:01 AM

DB

“ Mrs. Crespan,
You are the best! I will miss you a lot! You were a mom to me and i will never forget you for that. I loved you so much. I missed you a lot in the past couple years. I should have stayed in touch. I don't know why you had to go so soon because you were a true angel. You were a great friend and mom to everyone. You were there in my times of need and everyone's. Everyone loved you! I will miss you greatly! I love you & see you in the after life.

To Mr. Crespan, Brian, Missy, & Lizzie:
I am so very sorry to hear about Mrs. Crespan. Everyone loved her so much and she was the best! She will be greatly missed.

Love always,
Derek Bee

Derek Bee - September 20, 2016 at 12:01 AM

DP

“ Dear Ed, Brian, Missy, and Lizzy

God gave your mom to me as a true friend. I will always cherish our memories together. Always remember to keep in touch with us. We love you all.

Love Ron, Debbie, Nycki, Treena, and Alexis

Debbie Palmisano - September 20, 2016 at 12:01 AM

RP

“ YOU WILL ALWAYS BE IN OUR HEARTS.

RON AND DEBBIE PALMISANO - September 20, 2016 at 12:01 AM

JN

“ *To Ed, Brian, Missy & Lizzy:
I am so sorry for your loss. I wish there was something I could say or do to make it better for you. I have so many memories of Karen from when we were living next door and from our many trips to CT. You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers during this hard time.*
-Julie, TJ, Amber &
Christian Nolan

Julie Nolan Napierkowski - September 20, 2016 at 12:01 AM

JK

“ *Mrs. Crespan was the most loving and caring lady you could ever meet! She never hesitated to help anybody out or go out of her way to satisfy others. She was not only a great person to others but she was a great mom. Missie, Brian and Lizzie were lucky to have her as a mother because she did anything and everything she could to make their lives easier. This is a very horrible thing to happen to anybody, and its truly unfair because nobody deserves it. Mrs. Crespan, You were a true Angel to us all! We are all lucky to have known you! Don't worry about a thing... The family is in good hands, everyone will look after them! You will be missed! We all love you!*

Joanna Krol - September 20, 2016 at 12:01 AM

MF

“ Mrs Crespan,
I always remember the memories and the time me and my family spent with you. You have touched so many people all in different ways and i will remember you best for your kind heart, soul and willingness to help anyone and everyone around you. You are a great mother having raised three outstanding children who someday hopefully, will touch as many people as you have. This summer i can remember many times where you could make a whole room laugh and still manage to shop the day away. Missie and Lizzie , I will always be there for you whenever you need it, Love you both very much and i feel blessed to have known your mother and that i will continue to know the both of you. Love Melissa

Melissa and Bowman Family - September 20, 2016 at 12:01 AM

SK

“ *Karen Ronczka Crespan*

Sharon Kraczkowsky - September 20, 2016 at 12:01 AM

DS

“ *My most recent memory of Karen is from the 50th Anniversary party for Marion and Ed. As she did so well, she organized a tribute to celebrate the achievement of the 50 years Ed and Marion have enjoyed together. Today I was in awe of the many lives that Karen had influenced, seeing the countless number of young people that came to the viewing to pay tribute to her memory. We may never understand why some are chosen so early, but in her years with us, Karen set an example for others to follow.*

Doug Spirtt - September 20, 2016 at 12:01 AM

DR

“ My deepest sympathies to all of the Crespan family. Karen will truly be missed. I really enjoyed her company at all the games as we watched cheered on the girls softball team and our girls. Missie, Brian and Lizzie you are in my thoughts always.

Diane Radziszewski - September 20, 2016 at 12:01 AM

JD

“ Auntie Karen-
While many may call you their "second mother", I actually had the privilege of calling you my aunt. I'll always remember you for being one of the nicest people I've known, just the way you were to people was really magical. It made me feel so good when I would see you in public because whenever anyone asked I got to say, "She's my aunt." You have no idea how much you will be missed by so many. But, I guess God isn't very good at multitasking so he needed someone else to help him out with things. I'll always love you Auntie Karen, and I'm really going to miss you.

P.S. I'll never forget that Mickey Mouse wheel, or the time you pushed me in the garbage and I got birthday cake all over me.

Justin Dorsey - September 20, 2016 at 12:01 AM

AL

“ Missy, Lizzy, and family:
Well what can I say other than a mother can never be replaced. Your mom was a great person....She always had a smile on her face and always made everyone smile. I know that your mother is in heaven watching down on you and your entire family....My deepest condolences and sympathy is with you and your family....
Love Always,
Alessandra La Posta

Alessandra LaPosta - September 20, 2016 at 12:01 AM

AL

“ *Missy, Lizzy, and family:
Well what can I say other than a mother can never be replaced.
Your mom was a great person....She always had a smile on her
face and always made everyone smile. I know that your mother is in
heaven watching down on you and your entire family....My deepest
condolences and sympathy is with you and your family....
Love Always,
Alessandra La Posta*

Alessandra LaPosta - September 20, 2016 at 12:01 AM

MN

“ *Dear Ed, Brian, Missy and Lizzy:
Stay strong! We are all in shock but we know that Karen will always
look over you like she always has. We will miss her smily face when
we visit again later this year. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.
Mitch, Hanna, Christine and Julie*

Mitchell & Hanna Napierkowski - September 20, 2016 at 12:01 AM

EF

“ *You will always be in our prayers!!*

Evelyn Mejia and Iris Cruz FoodBag - September 20, 2016 at 12:01 AM

LJ

“ *Dear Ed, Brian, Missy, Liz,*

*Our deepest sympathy to all of you. Karen was loved by all of us.
She had such a tremendous impact on all of our lives. The little
things she did made her so special. She was the only one that could
pin on Brian's whistles on game day. Things like this will never be
forgotten. Rest in Peace Karen. Your memory will live on through all
your "KIDS" forever.*

Linda, Wayne, Brian & Kim Jehning - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

KT

“ No words can express how much everyone will miss her. Not only did I notice her bringing spirit to every sporting event but she brought a certain sence of life into everyone. When i was in her presence, I just got a sudden feeling of comfort and you couldn't help but be happy when she was around. Though I did not know Mrs. Crespan as well as most, I saw the way that she has impacted the lives of so many. She will be truely missed. To the Crespan family- my prayers are with you. Rest in peace Karen...one more angel watching over us working on our side.

Kristin Theriault - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

AD

“ sorry about the pain you all are feeling at this time. mrs. crespan was an angel in everyone eyes and will always be remebered in my heart as a second mom. she made your home open to me as if i was part of your family. i will always love you guys and will be there to ease the pain in way i possible can she will be remeber forever in my heart and in the hearts of many others. stay strong and her spirt will continue to live on forever. much love mrs. crespan you will always live on in my heart. love always anthony davis

anthony davis - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

KC

“ You will be greatly missed by everyone. You were always good to me and i got to know you really well in just a year. You were the most caring person and you would do anything for anyone and you were always there for anyone that even just needed a hug. You will be greatly missed but i know you are looking down on us from heaven and sending the angels to help us get through this tough time.

To missy and lizzie and the rest of the family: Hang in there, there are so many people here to help you guys out and i will be here for you guys too. We all greatly miss her and she was like everyones mom. My greatest sympathy is sent to you.

Love,
Kelly Charette

Kelly Charette - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

SO

“ What can I say? I don't believe it happen except for that it did. I know that she is in a better place. Karen, I just want you to know that everyone loved and still loves you. I think you are why everyones life was so happy, but now you are in each and everyone of our hearts. I send my love to Mr. Crespan, Brian, Missie and Lizzie. I love you Karen from your Smiley.

Sola Odesina - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

CA

“ There are no words to express how truly sorry I am for the family's loss. She was one in a million. She made a lasting impact on my heart, she is someone who changed my life forever. She never had us call her Mrs. Crespan it was always Karen, she was like one of the kids but at the same time she was everyone second mother. Nothing was ever about her it was about everyone around her. She was truly and angel on earth and now she is an angel in Heaven. Karen would not want us all to be sad she would want us to celebrate the good times and look back and laugh at all the crazy times we shared with her. No one can bring her back and nothing will ever replace her but her beautiful memories will live on forever through her family and many friends. I send all my love to Mr.Crespan, Brian, Missie, lizzie and the rest of the family in this time of sadness and that i will always be here if they need anything. I love you Karen and i will never forget what you brought into my life and how you could always make me laugh when i was having a bad day...and dont worry Karen i will NEVER bring fries into the gym!!

Carly Alicandro - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DK

“ Mrs. Crespan,
You are the best! I will miss you a lot! You were a mom to me and i will never forget you for that. I loved you so much. I missed you a lot in the past couple years. I should have stayed in touch. I don't know why you had to go so soon because you were a true angel. You were a great friend and mom to everyone. You were there in my times of need and everyones. Everyone loved you! I will miss you greatly! I love you & see you in the after life.

To Mr. Crespan, Brian, Missy, & Lizzie:
I am so very sorry to hear about Mrs. Crespan. Everyone loved her so much and she was the best! She will be greatly missed.

Love always,
Danielle

Danielle Kraczkowsky - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

RK

“ Lizzy-
Lizzy its Robert. I know we havent talked in a long time but I heard about your mom and im so sorry. I wish there was something that I could do. You know that I've gone through life without my dad and it hasnt been easy, but it has made me stronger. I know its not fair, but it will make you stronger. Unexpected things happen in life and there is nothing that you can do about them except just live your life to the fullest because you never know how long you're going to be around here. Lizzy, im here for you if need me. If you need someone to listen or if u need a shoulder to cry on, just call me. Im always here. 225-3538 I wish you and your family the best during these rough times.

Love,
Robert

Robert Koermer - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DH

“ DAVE AND I WOULD LIKE TO SEND OUR DEEPEST CONDOLENCES TO THE CREPAN FAMILY. WE WILL MISS KAREN, GOING OUT AND HAVING OUR HOLIDAY DINNERS, LAUGHING, TALKING AND HAVING SOME FUN AT THE BLUES CONCERT ENJOYING THE MUSIC, GOING TO PLAY MINITURE GOLF, EVEN TRIED BOWLING AND OF COURSE SEEING HER WITH HER FAMILY AT ED'S BIRTHDAY BASH. SHE LOVED MUSIC AND TALKING ABOUT BRIAN, LIZZY AND MISSY, AGAIN SHE WILL BE TRULY MISSED.

DAVID PAT HARMON - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

KX

“ I met Karen one night while galvanting in NB. She came out of her house and had a smile on her face. Mal introduced us, and she made some comment to us and we all laughed. She cracked us up. Thank you for making our night!! Also, thank you for being there for Mallory. I am a good friend of hers, and she constantly talked about how much you have helped her throughout the years. You will be missed, and never forgotten. To your family: I am sincerely sorry about your loss. I only wish i knew what it was that you were going through, but i do know you must stay strong and keep on track, cause your mom is watching!! Sending love from VA...

Kate Xeller - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ *Mr. Crespan, Brian, Missy, and Lizzy,
I am extremley sorry for the loss of your loving wife and mother. She was a wonderful lady she always knew what to say and you could talk to her about anything. She will be missed by all and everyone who has known her will have a special place in their heart for her. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family at this time.
Love You Always Karen*

Janice Boucher - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JG

“ *Mrs. C-
You left too early. You made me laugh, you made people feel like they meant something in this world.
You always welcomed us into your home... there wasn't a party without KAREN! You sat with me during cold days to watch the softball game. Half the time I wouldn't have stayed if it weren't for you. I will miss your smile and your silly jokes.
Mr. Crespan, Brian, Missy and Lizzie-
I am sorry. You all will be in my prayers.*

Joann Gutowski - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

KJ

“ *Mrs. Crespan had to be the nicest lady in the world not only to me but to everyone around me. She would always be there to help, always knew what to say and did everything she could. I will always fix our uniforms..ecspecially for brian! Keep an eye on us all and we will all reunite some day..To missy,liz and the rest your always in my thoughts. Rest In Peace Karen*

Kim Jehning - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ I am very sorry for your loss, as a new member of the NBHS girls softball team I am sad to say that I did not get the chance to get to know Mrs. Crespan but the few times we talked she was such a sweetheart, She welcomed me with open arms to this team and I cannot be thankful for that. She was a wonderful person and I know she will be looking down on us as our angel. She will never be forgotten.

With our deepest sympathy,

The Melley Family- Jess, John, Diane and Becca

Jessica Melley - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

ST

“ I saw Karen give her love and support to Rena and Dean Bouchard during the planning of their wedding. I was Rena's matron of honor and Karen helped me out so much with the planning of Rena's bridal shower. Karen supported the financial efforts, she cooked and helped decorate. She certainly proved to me that she is a very talented craftsperson and cook. She became like a "mother" to Rena, giving her advice and supporting her whenever Rena needed her help. She was also a loving caretaker for her parents and was a wonderful person to know. She will forever be remembered in our hearts. With my sincere sympathy to the entire Crespan family.

Sincerely, Suzanne Thibodeau

Suzanne Thibodeau - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

KR

“ Karen was a mother to all of us. She is our angel and she'll always be. If you asked her to help you she always would, she was a very giving person. You would always have a smile on your face when she was around. Missie, Lizzie, Brian, and Ed i'll always be here for you and my love is all yours. Even though this is a time that you're sad, i think she would want all of us to smile. You will be missed dearly by so many. Keep an eye on us. I'll miss you! You will have a big place in my heart always and forever.

Krista Radziszewski - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

LF

“ Our deepest sympathy to all of Karen's family. She was truly a Mom to all the children who had the pleasure of knowing her. Karen always had a smile, a hug, a warm embrace, and an energy that stimulated all around her. I know that her life revolved around her family, and now she will still be with you, only in a much better place. God bless you all.

Laura Carlin & Family - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

UK

“ We all know that Karen was our angel on earth. She has touched everyone's heart in one way or another and we all have memories of her that will continue to make us smile. Ed, Brian, Missy, and Lizzy our family is here for you always. Your wife, mother, and friend will be missed by so many people. I know she is smiling down on you all from heaven because she has left you with people who love you and will help you through everything. You're not alone. Thank for everything Karen!

Ula Kubrynski - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

AC

“ Mrs. Crespan, you were a great person thank you so much for everything. You will be greatly missed by everyone that knew you.

Mr. Crespan, Brian, Lizzy, Missy...my prayers and thoughts are with you.

Love,
Abby

Abby Chamberlain - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

CM

“ Karen was a second mom to all the kids that ever entered her house. She always welcomed friends of her kids, and anyone else for that matter like a member of her family. I will never forget her smile, her laughs, and her jokes. She was an incredible woman, that noone will ever be able to forget. My condolences go out to Brian, Missy, Lizzie, Ed and the rest of her family. Karen will always hold a special place in my heart. I am a better person for having known her. All my love and sympathy - Catherine McClay and family

Catherine McClay - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

KD

“ Back in January, Gary and I were going on a plane trip to Florida. Like most parents, we worried that if something were to happen to us enroute, we would want to know that our family would be well cared for. As I was going over some of our information with Mallory, she commented... "what will happen to me..where will I live?" I quickly and simply replied... "You will live with the Crespan's". It just made perfect sense. Karen was such a great friend to Mallory all through her high school and post-high school years, that it just made sense. I truly thank God for her presence in our lives. Without her help, I don't know how I would have dealt with some of those "high school daughter" situations. I trust that God has a special place for her in his Heaven. May she rest in peace. Kathy and Gary Deprey

Kathy Deprey - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

ED

“ Auntie Karen,
I am so lucky to be able to say you are part of my family. You always knew how to make me laugh and always made me feel special. All of us that were a part of your life are so fortunate to have been blessed with your love. I will always remember all of the stories you and my mom told me about your "younger years". I promise to be there for your mom, dad, Uncle Ed, Brian, Missy and Lizzie. I will always love you and miss you, but I know in my heart you will watch over us.
I love you Auntie K!!!

Erin Dorsey - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

HS

“ *The Holy Cross School Community Sr. Marlene, Teachers and Students express our sincerest sympathy to the Crespan Family. We will always remember Karen's Loving and Giving Heart--- Karen's love of children, her smile and sense of humor. Our world/our school was "Special" because she was a part of it.*

Sister Marlene, Faculty/Staff and school children of Holy Cross School

Holy Cross School - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ *"You don't know what you've got 'till its gone" Joni Mitchell/Paved Paradise to Put Up a Parking Lot My biggest regret is that I have only known Karen and her family for maybe a dozen years, yet I feel that I have known them forever. Always with a quip, Karen was there for so many, her family, her girls, all those girls in band, sports, school activities. I don't ever remember her saying no to things. Karen might even do it different, but she got it done. The ultimate cheerleader, advocate for women's sports, especially softball. She kept things lively, intense and others involved. She said what was on her mind, and added perspective when others might not. And that's so important to do. A car wash without her, a fundraiser less her contribution; a space that will not be easily filled, if at all. Missing someone is one thing, aching for someone's presence is another. There will be many who will feel the pain and grieve, for we have lost much, been denied future Spring days and Summer evenings with Karen there, laughing, kidding, screaming support for the team. A key player of the human team has passed. Ed, Brian, Lizzy and Missy, we send you our support, our tears and our deepest regrets, for we cannot possibly experience your grief. We are there if you ever need anything.*

Danny, Marianne, Kayla and Dena Salerno - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

MA

“ Karen,
A true angel, that's what you are! It's not fair that you had to leave so soon. We had so much to do, but time wasn't on our side. You will be missed by all, the way you do things were certainly one of a kind, but that was the Karen way. You always knew the right things to do and say and how to make things better. You did things for me and you got thru to me when I wouldn't give anyone else the time of day. You made such a big impact on my life and I am so grateful that you became such a big part of it! Our late night drives, rollercoasters, detours, trips to the cape, bowling, shopping, store accidents, and our daily talks, will be turely missed, but never shall they be forgotten! I'll be here for Missie and Lizzie just like you asked me to be! I'll take care of them like you took care of me. They will never go with out because I will never leave their side! Brian, Missie, and Lizzie will make you proud and be successful with everything, just like you always said you wanted them to. Karen, I thought the world of you, and still do. Life will never be the same but I will smile with every tear that I cry and stay strong because I know that's how you would want it. Look down on me and be my Angel, watch over me always!! I LOVE YOU WITH ALL OF MY HEART AND SOUL! Until we meet again I love you mom!

Mallory - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

AM

“ Karen, I will miss your calls asking for the recipe for zucchini bread & peanut blossom cookies, also for medical advise. You were one of the bright lights in the family. RIP
Aunt Marie

Aunt Marie - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

SJ

“ Karen will always be in our hearts. She had a way of keeping everyone smiling. She loved her family and her friends, she always met you with a smile and was ready to help anyway she could

scott jiantonio - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JO

“ Karen was an amazing woman. She was a second mother to everyone, mostly my best friends, that grew up at her house, that remember her from Holy Cross, Baseball and just flat out New Britain. Anytime I was at the Crespan’s she made me feel right at home. I don’t know many mothers that did as much as she did, and I know why everyone loved her so much. She always had me cracking up. I remember being over there one night and Randy, Joanne, and a bunch of us we’re just hanging out, and he told her about the Coach Majeski name butchering story. From then on I was known as ‘Jordan SIXPACK’ to her. If I walked by the office at NBHS and she spotted me, she would scream out ‘SIXPACK!!!’ in front of everyone, and I would just walk over to her laughing. On Monday I was talking to her about pictures she found of us from one of those nights and we both started cracking up when we recalled that night. She always put a smile on my face and made me laugh. I am so fortunate to have met such a caring and warm hearted woman. I will miss our chats;. I will continue to laugh because I will always have those memories.

Ed, Brian, Missy, Lizzy, your mother was a great person, If you guys ever need anything, let me know. You are in my thoughts and prayers. Keep your heads up in this difficult time.

*Love,
Jordan*

Jordan - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JA

“ We are sorry to hear of your tragic loss, and will only remember Karen as an active, busy Mom partaking in all her children's events, as well as the work she did in her husbands business. Her rushing here & there on Dudley St will be missed.

Jean & Ed Aparo - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ When I think of Karen, I think of not only a friend, but someone who always treated me like I was part of her family. Thats just the way she was. She was a second mother to a lot of us. Karen was one of the most genuine, loving, giving people I have ever met. I'll never forget when I saw her at the all night grad party dressed up as the homeless lady with no teeth. She could always make us laugh. I have so many great memories of Karen and if I were to list them all I would be here all day. Now is the time we have to all take our memories and let them live on in our hearts knowing shes looking down on us, guiding us all the way. She was a great woman and will never be forgotten. Brian, Missie, Lizzie, and Ed, I love all u guys. B-Guy, ur the brother I never had. I'm here for you all no matter what you need. Be strong, hang in there. We can get through this together. Love you guys.

Jessica Malinowski - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DA

“ Eddie:
We were shocked to read about Karen this morning. Our thoughts went immediately to the Xmas parties so many years ago and the excellent relationships that we had. Our prayers are with you and your children and for Karen.

DAVE & Lynne Archibald - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

KH

“ My deepest sympathy to the family of Karen. May god watch over you all and give you strength each day to carry on and help you thru your great loss. You are in my prayers.

I knew Karen thru her cousin Mieko Ronczka.

Kathleen Kingsbury Howard - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

KC

“ We want to express our sincere sympathy to Ed, Brian, Missy and Lizzy in the loss of their wife and mother. Our prayers are with you at this time of your sorrow.

Kyle and Kelly Charette - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

AC

“ Karen you were truly an angel on earth, thank you for everything you did for me and everyone around you. I will never forget our conversations and the relationship advice you always gave me, especially our last conversation. You always were quick to lend a comforting word or helping hand, and you will be greatly missed by all. We all love you very much and will never forget you.

Ed, Brian, Missy, and Lizzie, you all are in my prayers.

Love, Alissa

Alissa Criniti - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

WM

“ *IN MEMORY OF KAREN, WE HAVE MADE A CONTRIBUTION TO NBHS GIRLS SOFTBALL BOOSTER CLUB, PER KAREN'S REQUEST.*

OUR DEEPEST AND WARMEST CONDOLENCES ARE WITH YOU. Wanda & Ted Malkowski

Wanda & Ted Malkowski - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DD

“ *Karen, My Cousin, My Best Friend, What will I do now? We always helped each other to feel better. We laughed together, cried together and worried together. We had our hours of phone conversations about our families, especially our parents. Please get some rest dear Karen and I promise you that I will do my best to take care of your family. I will always love you and miss you terribly.*
Love, Dawn

P.S. California and Florida... Oh what fun when we were single!!

Dawn Dorsey - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DD

“ *Karen, My Cousin, My Best Friend, What will I do know? We always helped each other to feel better. We laughed together, cried together and worried together. We had our hours of phone conversations about our families, especially our parents. Please get some rest dear Karen and I promise you that I will do my best to take care of your family. I will always love you and miss you terribly.*
Love, Dawn

P.S. California and Florida... Oh what fun when we were single!!!

Dawn Dorsey - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DM

“ WE HAVE GREAT MEMORIES OF KAREN, TO US SHE IS TRULY AN ANGEL. WE ARE TRULY SORRY FOR YOUR LOSS, LOVE AND GOD BLESS THE MADIGAN'S

DEBRA MADIGAN - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

AF

“ I can not even begin to describe how much Karen meant to my family and I. She was a helper, a healer, and most of all a friend. She was there to talk to when no one else wanted to listen. Not only was she an amazing friend, she was like a second mother to me. She was a second mother to everyone that went to NBHS. She was a beautiful person inside and out. To her family, I express my deepest condolences. Remember the good times, there were many. She's smiling down on us. She was one in a million and will never be forgotten. I will miss her forever. Until we meet again. I love you Karen.

Amy Paskov and Family - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

EF

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with your family. With deepest sympathy.
Edward Weksner, Sr. and family

Edward Weksner Sr. and Family - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

TF

“ When we think of Karen, we think of her very generous and giving nature..she was always there ready to lend a helping hand! We extend our deepest sympathy to Ed, Brian, Missy and Liz.

The Raineault Family - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

CD

“ *"The guardian angels of life sometimes fly so high as to be beyond our sight, but they are always looking down upon us."*

-Jean Paul Richter

Karen,

You know how we all feel about you. You are loved by everyone because you made us all a part of your family. We are all blessed to have had you in our lives and are better people for having known you. You are in a far better place than us now and I know that you will continue to guide your family and everyone you've touched through life. Thank you for being a part of our lives.

Ed, Brian, Missy and Lizzie- you are in my heart and in my prayers.

Casey Devers - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ Well what can I say that hasn't been said already? I think Ricky, Zip and everyone else have pretty much said what I would have about Karen. She was a mother. She was a lover. She was a friend. Karen was truly a great person who was always there to give a helping hand. She was a friend to a lot of us and for others, like myself, she was like a second mom. I'm glad that I was able to share many memories with Karen. I remember the first time I met her. The first thing she said to me was that she hoped that I was nothing like my father when they were friends in high school. I will never forget the way that she always called me when she wanted my attention, “Hey Lorch”. I'm glad I got to know the Crespan Family over the past 8 years after becoming friends with Brian. I know that times may be tough now for ya B-Guy, Ed, Liz, and Missy but they will get better in time. Even though the big guy has asked you mom to be with him up there in the heavens, probably since he hasn't had a good cook up there to cook for him lately, she will be looking down on us all. Continue to live life through her spirits. I'm here if you need me and so is the rest of the Lorch Family. Heaven has truly been blessed with Karen's presence. She will live in our hearts forever. Love ya Karen!

Michael Lorch and the Family - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

MN

“ I've known the Crespan's for most of my life. Even back in Holy Cross, Karen was just like a second mom to me. Missy and I were so close back then, as my brother and Brian were. Everytime I saw Karen she would always greet me with a great big hello and a smile on her face. She would always ask " Hows the knee?" She was one of the most amazing women I have ever had the privledge to know in my life. She had so much love to give to her family as well as friends and total strangers. I am going to miss that crazy laugh of hers that made it painful not to laugh with her. She was a great mother, wife, friend, and a complete sweetheart to every one who knew her. My family and I are going to miss her very much. We are so blessed to have known her all these years, and will continue to be blessed by the fact that we had her in our lives. Our thoughts and prayers are with you Brian, Lizzie, Missy, Mr. Crespan and the entire family. RIP Karen. We love you.

Mary-Kate Nowobilski - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

EC

“ Mommy,
what can i say you were there for me in everything i did. when times were bad you were always there to make me smile and laugh.you are my angel.know that every time you are thinking of me in heaven i am thinking of you.why did they have to take you mom, you never did a thing to hurt anybody.when people looked at you there day brightened because thats how much you could do to somebody.you did everything you could to keep me brian and missie happy and were very thankful for that!!you will be missed by so many people because lets just say you knew everyone.i could never lie to you because you would always find out and thats being a great mother.i will always be your little lizzietish.i promise you i will help daddy and do everything i know you would want me to do.dont worry mommy so many people are here to help us out and get through this.if you only knew how much i miss you!it feels like somebody just took the biggest piece of my heart out.i love you mommy and you will never be forgotten by anyone.
i love you so much more then words can ever say. ~lizzie~

elizabeth crespan - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

KA

“ Mrs. Crespan was a sweetheart,she was a mother to everyone and seemed to always be there for all of us.She will be truly missed and will always remain in our hearts.She was a very special person to both me and my older sister and always will be.We love you karen!!!

Karla - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

KA

“ Mrs. Crespan was a sweetheart,she was a mother to everyone and seemed to always be there for all of us.She will be truly missed and will always remain in our hearts.She was a very spacial person to and my older sister and always will be.we love you karen!!!

Karla - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

EC

“ *Mr. Crespan, Brian, Missy, and Lizzy,
There are no words to describe how sorry I am. Mrs. Crespan was a great lady and will be truly missed. My thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time.*
Liza Carey

Elizabeth Carey - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

MB

“ *Mrs. Crespan i got very close to you in the last couple years and you really will be missed by all. You were like a mother to me and i felt like i could tell you anything. you were a big part in my life and not just mine but everyone else who knew you. LOVE YOU LIKE A MOM!!!*

Maegan Brzostowski - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ *im going to miss talk about amanda with u at the softball games on the bleachers. thanks for always being a friend.*

craig staranchak - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

WM

“ *May the road rise up to meet you.
May the wind be always at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
and the rains fall soft upon your fields.
And until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of His hand.*

Karen, you were so much more than my freind's mother. You were everyone's second mom. I feel truly blessed to have known you. You touched so many lives and I know that you are looking down at us from your beatiful place in Heaven. To the entire Crespan family, I can only say that I am deeply saddened for your loss. Brian, I love you like a brother, just keep your head up and if you need anything, anything at all, just call me; any time, any place. I mean that. Just take some comfort knowing that she will always live on in all of our hearts. From all of my family, our condolences.

William Zippy Macey - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

BE

“ *Do not cry because it is over. SMILE because it happened.*

Smile because of all the happy memories Karen has left with us.

She truly was an angel on Earth.

The Vereneau family offers their deepest condolences to Ed, Brian, Missy, Lizzy.

Becky - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

MC

“ Everything just seems so unfair right now - how can a wonderful woman be taken away from her family?

However, we must believe that everything does happen for a reason - what that reason is, we don't know yet.

Have faith and be strong - you are all in my prayers.

Matthew Cannata - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

PB

“ To Ed, Brian, Missy and Lizzy,
I met Karen when Lizzy and my son Eric were in elementary school at Holy Cross. When the kids went into the building in the morning, Teresa Ostrowski and Karen, myself and a few others would stand in the parking lot and talk for hours drinking coffee. Before we knew it, it was almost time for the kids to come out of kindergarten! She knew I quilted and sometimes couldn't think quick enough to say my name...but she would call me "Quilt Lady" Even when I ran into her at Kohls the other day she called me "Quilt Lady".

I know you are all in shock right now and this is the hardest thing you have had to deal with in your lives, but God must have a bigger plan for all the love and laughter Karen has brought to you and so many others. Everyone at Holy Cross is praying for Karen and your family. Know that you are loved. God Bless all of you and give you strength in your time of sorrow.

The Bialy Family Jim, Pat & Eric

Pat Bialy - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

SC

“ Dear Ed, Brian, Missy, and Lizzie and family - We were so truly saddened to hear of Karen's shocking passing. It seems so unfair, but we're certain God needed another Angel to help organize things in heaven and watch over all of you until you all meet again. God Bless You all and know you are in our prayers and thoughts. If you are *EVER* in need of anything, please call us. She was one of the most wonderful, giving people in the world and her loss is devastating.

Our sincerest sympathy, Stephen, Marion, Stephen B. and Liza Carey

Stephen and Marion Carey - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

RL

“ I know the only thing that a person can do for you at a time like this is sympathize with you and offer support, with that in mind i am sorry for the tragic loss. My entire family sends their condolences as well. You guys have known me for years and in that time i have become close with your family. Brian, I love you, bottomline. I know times are crazy with our work/school schedules but if theres a time, I mean anytime you need to get something off of your chest or just hang out; I am here for you brother. Your mother was a strong willed and kindhearted individual, the loss is depressing but believe me there are positives. The lord made a call to this Earth and it was for your mother, I promise you she is looking down from heaven wishing she was still here but knowing that she has a great family that will carry on with the many qualities she has instilled in you and your sisters. Remember death is a transition, not the end of the road. You have a good head on your shoulders bro and someday, after you succeed in this life you will join your mother once again. For now she is a fond memory, but you will see her again. Missy and Liz, You will carry on what your mother has left you, and that is to make things right for people. Utilize the qualities your mom has given you. She sees what youre doing right now and I am 100% positive that she is smiling from heaven when she sees her two beautiful daughters living through her, and like I said to Brian, it's not over, you will see her again. Finally, Ed...what can i say? Karen was the one woman that you loved and chose to spend the rest of your life with. Love is sometimes too powerful and I know that you are taking this hard. I send my condolences to you sir because i know in my heart that you must feel like you have lost a piece of your own being. You Crespan's are very strong in your will though so all there is to look for is the sun that will arise after the storm. This isn't the end i assure you....Karen is just beginning a new life. I love you guys, keep your heads up.

Ricky Leupold - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

SH

“ My dear sweet cousin and friend....I know it has been FOREVER since we have been together, but I miss you so much!! My mom called me last night with the news and I couldn't believe what I was hearing. The very first thing I thought of was the time when you broke your arm, and my mom bought us both sweaters for our Ken dolls. We were both soooooo excited. Another thing I thought of was how we would drive around in your car wearing safety glasses----UPSIDE DOWN---and honk at other cars and stare at them making goofy faces. You ALWAYS made me laugh....you had, and I am sure still have, an incredible sense of humor. Everyone who knew you is very lucky person because I am sure you made them laugh too. I love you my wonderful cousin...and don't worry about the kids...they will do GREAT...just keep a close eye on them from up above!! Love, Sharon

SharonRonzkaSchweer - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

SP

“ Karen, you were a second mother to so many including myself, and i will miss you so much everyday. You will remain in our hearts forever. Love you.

Shannon Pindar - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JK

“ Miss you Karen. You were and always will be the best. Thank you for everything you did. Miss you always and forever.
Love, Jill

Jill Kozieradzki - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

SL

“ You will always hold a special place in my heart.

Love,
Snow

Snow Lapila-Hairston - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM