

Karen Lea Darton

March 3, 1946 ~ February 24, 2026

Karen Lea Darton (Hall)

March 3, 1946 to February 24, 2026

On February 24, 2026 at 9:00 p.m., Karen Lea Darton stepped peacefully into eternity. She was 79 years young, steady in her faith, and unafraid of what comes next.

Karen was born March 3, 1946 in Rock Springs, Wyoming to Clifford Allen Hall and Elsie Lea Hall (Hatch). She grew up with strong values, a deep testimony, and a creative spark that would one day fill homes and hearts through her art.

She was preceded in death by her son, David, whom she loved fiercely and carried in her heart every single day.

She is survived by her husband Mel, her brother Kenny and her children Doug and his wife Andrea, and Leisa and her husband John. Her grandchildren Christian and his wife Kelli, Kaitlin and her husband Trevor, Brooke and her husband Trevor, Zach and his wife Emily, Jake and his wife Acelyn, Ethan, and Reagan. Also survived by her great grandchildren Heather, Leah, Lucas, Owen, and Walter, with two more on the way. Her grandchildren were the joy of her life. If you were part of her family, you knew you were loved.

Karen was an avid oil painter. She painted for family, friends, galleries, and taught countless painting classes over the years. She shared her knowledge freely and took genuine joy in watching others discover they could create something beautiful.

Her kitchen was sacred ground. No one ever left hungry. Her famous “puddin” and “hot chocolate toast” were less about food and more about love. Holidays were never small. They were events. If Karen was hosting, it was big, beautiful, and just a little over the top. She wanted us together, telling stories, passing the puddin’, and making room for one more at the table.

Karen was full of joy. She had a wonderful sense of humor and could find laughter even in hard seasons. Her faith was steady. She trusted the Lord, and that faith carried her all the way home. Karen’s greatest masterpiece was her family. She loved them more than anything and made sure they knew it. And she would want her family to continue in life with joy and laughter.

Although, she would probably tell us not to make a fuss. And then she would absolutely expect us to make a fuss. So we will gather. We will eat well. We will celebrate big. And we will love each other the way she loved us.

Services will be held on Friday, March 6, 2026.

Viewing from 10:00 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.

Funeral services at 11:00 a.m.

LDS Church

11570 Wasatch Blvd

Sandy, UT 84092

Burial will follow at 12:30 p.m.

Larkin Mausoleum

1950 East 10600 South

Sandy, UT 84092