



Mrs. Karen Lee Buffolino

January 10, 1955 - September 10, 2024

It is with deep sorrow that the Buffolino family announces the death of their beloved mother, Mrs. Karen Lee Buffolino, 69.

Mrs. Buffolino, the widow of Biagio "Pops" Buffolino, entered into rest on Tuesday, September 10, 2024. The Directors of Brown-Pennington-Atkins Funeral Home & Crematory are caring for the family.

A funeral service to honor her life will be held at 2 o'clock on Sunday, September 15, 2024, in Savannah Advent Christian Church, with The Rev. John Gallagher officiating. The family will receive friends from 5:00 pm until 7:00 pm on Saturday, September 14, 2024, at Brown-Pennington-Atkins Funeral Home.

Mrs. Buffolino was born in Edward AFB, CA, on January 10, 1955. She was the daughter of the late Paul Bennett and Ruth Bridendolph Bennett.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made in her honor to The American Cancer Society, P. O. Box 11796, Charlotte, NC 28220.

Karen was raised in Hagerstown, MD. She graduated from Hagerstown High School and attended cosmetology school. She later met her husband in Hagerstown. They raised their three daughters in Chambersburg, PA, until

they moved to the Carolinas in 1990. In 2012, she moved to Bishopville, SC, and opened New York by the Slice in Hartsville, SC. You could see her working behind the counter most afternoons until she retired in 2020.

Karen was involved with Savannah Advent Church in Bishopville, SC. She enjoyed Sunday service and fellowship with the members.

Karen was an amazing mother, mother-in-law, wife, friend, sister, second mother to many, and an ever more amazing grandmother. She was a laughter; if you could make her laugh, you stole the key to her heart. She enjoyed simple family gatherings. She looked forward to them even more as her family grew and moved across the Carolinas. Not many gatherings went past without her making her three daughters and three sons-in-law recreate a picture taken over 20 years ago. She enjoyed long conversations at the kitchen table with tea. Karen loved her dogs; she loved all dogs; at any moment, you could find dog treats in her pocketbook or her pocket. She was ready to baby any dog she saw. Karen was a gifted artist of many forms: sewing, drawing, painting, and repurposing. Mostly, she enjoyed being a mother to her own children and many others throughout her life.

She is survived by her daughters, Janette Powell (Lee) of Hallsboro, NC, Kelli Diehl (Daniel) of Wilmington, NC, Gracie Buffolino-Hill (Kendrick) of Bishopville, SC; grandchildren, Zana Thomas, Sky Fignan, Farrell Reed (Rachel), Eben Diehl, Kaya Diehl, Marcella Buffolino-Hill, Janiyah James; great-grandchildren, Farrin Reed, and Farrell Reed; sister, Marcia Boalen of Bishopville, SC; brother, Terry Bennett of Raleigh, NC; nieces and nephews, Yancy Bennett, Barbara Gilly (Brandon), Antonio Buffolino, Tracy Bennett, Justin Bennet. Also, a very special cousin, Mary Chaney (Gary).

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her Husband, Biagio "Pops" Buffolino; brother, Tony Bennett.

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP **14.** 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Brown Pennington Atkins Funeral Home
306 West Home Avenue
Hartsville, SC 29550
info@bpafuneralhome.com
<http://www.bpafuneralhome.com>

Funeral Service

SEP **15.** 2:00 PM (ET)

Savannah Advent Christian Church
1948 Ashland-Stokes Bridge Road
Bishopville, SC

Tribute Wall



“ *Brown - Pennington - Atkins Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mrs. Karen Lee Buffolino*



Brown-Pennington-Atkins Funeral Home - September 13, 2024 at 11:10 AM

AR

My husband and I are usually weekly customers. We live less than a mile from the restaurant. I just happened on this today and wanted to write a note to you to express my condolences Terry and Angela Russell.

Angela Bowick Russell - September 19, 2024 at 02:13 PM

GO

“ *We are so sorry for your loss. We frequently patronize New York by the Slice. We know she was a wonderful lady along with her husband POPS. You all are in our prayers. Always reflect back on the memories you cherished with her They will last a lifetime.*



Grady & Melva O'Neal - September 13, 2024 at 09:32 PM



“ *Gracie So very sorry for your loss praying for you and your family God bless and keep you close*



Crystal Minnehan - September 13, 2024 at 09:52 AM



“ *48 files added to the album Life Tributes*



Brown-Pennington-Atkins Funeral Home - September 13, 2024 at 07:05 AM



“ *Our hearts are broken. Karen was all around amazing! My family will cherish our memories of being with her. We sure did have many laughs. Thinking of all of you with Deepest of Sympathy 🙏*

Kathy Marinelli - September 12, 2024 at 10:06 PM

TM

“ What can you say about someone who was so loved and revered by many people?

Karen held many titles. She was first a daughter, a sister, a cousin, a friend, a wife, a mother, a grandmother and great grandmother. She could have been Patron Saint to all dogs, especially to those dogs who some wouldn't want. She had a big heart!



We became friends when she moved to Chambersburg ,PA with her husband and daughters.

We shared similar backgrounds, having both grown up in Hagerstown, MD. She had 3 daughters. I had 2.

It wasn't long before we became friends; sharing many, many conversations over a cup of hot tea. Those hours spent together saved me from falling apart when my husband died suddenly at 35. She was the one that took my daughters home with her after the funeral. I knew they would be fine with her.

Several years passed with our friendship. We both had our ups and downs. Then, she was leaving Chambersburg to go South with her family to open a pizza shop in Myrtle Beach.

We did go to visit once, and tried to keep in touch. We both had a lot of changes in our lives, which life is after all, change. We drifted apart, but I would still hear from her through her daughter, Kelli.

In 2021, I called her and we talked for a long time. It was so good to hear her voice. She sounded the same, sweet and caring. But again time went by and we didn't talk. Then I hear from my daughter, Beth, that Kelli contacted her to let us know that my dear friend was leaving this world.

I was and still am stunned. I choked back the tears while my daughter read Kelli's message to me.

Why do we let so much time go by? I don't know the answer.

I told Kelli that her mom left a lot of holes in so many hearts, but she filled those holes with love and light.

Karen was just that...Light and Love. She will be so missed by family and friends alike. Hers will be one of the first souls I seek, when it's my time. My love goes with you, Karen.

Teresa McCoy - September 12, 2024 at 02:52 PM

PF

“ *RIP Karen your job on earth is done. God bless her family* 🙏🕊️



Patricia Franklin - September 12, 2024 at 02:40 PM

JE

“ *Jean lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Karen Lee Buffolino*



Jean - September 12, 2024 at 12:45 PM

JE

She was a special lady. Praying for her family.

Jean - September 12, 2024 at 12:46 PM