



Karen Sue Graham

January 11, 1954 - December 13, 2025

On Saturday, December 13th, Karen Sue Spencer Graham departed this world and returned to the arms of God, reunited at last with those who went before her. She is survived by her beloved son, Cory Graham, her cherished grandson, Charleston Graham, who was the light of her later years. Additionally, her sisters, Louise Grounds, Barbara (Jim) McPhail, and Teresa Spencer; her nieces, Valerie (Jack) Ellis and Stacy King; and her great-nieces and great-nephews, Jackson (Hailey) Ellis, Lauren Ellis, and Samuel King. She was preceded in death by: parents Thomas & Delphia Harper Spencer; sister Carol King; and brother-in-law Dennis Grounds.

A daughter of Appalachia in the truest sense, she was born in the coal camps of Cabin Creek, West Virginia, and came of age in the turbulent 1960s, years that shaped her convictions, her compassion, and the woman she would become. Above all things, she championed kindness. Fearing it was slipping from the world, and she made it her quiet mission to remind everyone around her never to lose sight of its worth. Her love extended not only to the people in her life but to the animals she cherished. Generous at her core, and a devoted vegan for nearly the whole of her life, she found beauty in every living creature, even the odd sea animals collected by her grandson, whom she affectionately claimed as her “great-grand fish.” Like them, she found her own peace and joy in the warmth and the waves of the ocean.

Her years in Powell County were marked by service from the very beginning. During her

long

career with the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service, she dedicated herself to

the farmers and homemakers she often spoke of as family, and to the countless community

members who came to her seeking help. Later, she honored her dear friend Rhonda Allen Barnett by completing her term as Powell County Clerk, guiding the county through the end of

prohibition before retiring to devote her days more fully to those she loved.

As a mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, daughter, and cousin, Karen placed her family at the

center of her life. As a public servant, advocate, and proud member of the Powell County Democratic Hall of Fame, she held her community just as close to her heart. But above all else,

simply as a human being, it was that very heart that shone brightest. It is that quiet brilliance,

that unmistakable warmth, that will be missed most of all.

Her passing may cast a shadow, but her memory remains a steady beacon guiding us, comforting us, and reminding us of the way home. She was loved dearly, and her spirit will never fade. Services Saturday, December 20, 2:00 by Bro. David Rogers and Mike Reed, Wells Funeral Home. Visitation Saturday 12pm-2pm at the funeral home. Burial in Stonegate Cemetery with Mike Reed, Jack Ellis, Jackson Ellis, Kevin Hall, Matthew Combs and David Rogers serving as pallbearers. Honorary serving Samuel King, Judith Chaney, Pam Dooley, Virginia Todd, Evelyn Neely, Sherri Whisman, Leigh Rose, Teddy Lacy, Chad and Glenda Birch, Faye King, Josephine Lawson, Connie Newsome, Brinton and Tina Epperson, Pam Crowe, Gale Means, and her beloved family of farmers and homemakers.

Previous Events

Family Visitation

DEC 20. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Wells Funeral Home
777 W. College Avenue
P.O. Box 33
Stanton, KY 40380
(606) 663-9480
davisanddavisfuneralhome@yahoo.com
<https://www.ddfh.net>

Visitation

DEC 20. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Wells Funeral Home
777 West College Avenue
P.O. Box 33
Stanton, KY 40380
wellsfuneralhome@yahoo.com

Funeral Service

DEC 20. 2:00 PM (ET)

Wells Funeral Home
777 West College Avenue
P.O. Box 33
Stanton, KY 40380
wellsfuneralhome@yahoo.com

Tribute Wall

TS

“ *Teresa Kay Smith lit a candle in memory of Karen Sue Graham*



Teresa Kay Smith - December 29, 2025 at 05:33 PM

TS

“ *So many memories of her being in my life growing up. I remember I was 10 yrs old when my dad(Ora & Gladys Smith) started working at the courthouse(34 yrs). And she was always there everyday, I never knew her to be sick and never saw her mad. Sorely missed, prayers to the family. RIP Karen, you have earned your wings sweetie.*

Teresa Kay Smith - December 29, 2025 at 05:31 PM



“ *53 files added to the album LifeTributes*



Wells Funeral Home - December 20, 2025 at 11:01 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Karen Sue Graham.*



December 19, 2025 at 04:56 PM

JG

“ Jennifer G. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Karen Sue Graham.

Jennifer G. - December 18, 2025 at 06:46 PM

LS

“ Lana S. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Karen Sue Graham.

Lana S. - December 18, 2025 at 06:39 PM

LR

“ Leigh M Rose purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of Karen Sue Graham.



Leigh M Rose - December 18, 2025 at 09:53 AM

LR

“ Leigh M Rose planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Karen Sue Graham.

Leigh M Rose - December 18, 2025 at 09:53 AM

JR

“ Cory, I read the obituary tribute and it is so beautiful and a true picture of Karen and her character. I am so sorry for your loss. Prayers for you and her family.
Jerlene Rose

Jerlene Rose - December 17, 2025 at 10:57 AM

TE

“ I'm a little younger than Karen but I was very fond of her, I remember Cory her beloved son. Her work in the county extension office was so appreciated. She loved my mother Elizabeth Begley who was very active in homemakers. RIP my friend.



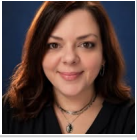
Teresa - December 17, 2025 at 10:30 AM

DT

“ So sorry for your loss prayers for family and all



dianah Townsend - December 16, 2025 at 11:13 PM



“ I'm saddened to learn of Karen's passing. My time working at the extension office and the 4-H program was made even more memorable with her spunk. Prayers for peace and comfort to her family and friends.



Heather Thomas - December 16, 2025 at 07:24 PM

LB

“ She was always quick to respond to requests for prayers. I appreciated knowing she would ask for updates so that she could continue praying.

Linda Bradt - December 16, 2025 at 06:57 PM

AM

“ Prayers and thoughts of healing memories in the loss of your beloved.



April Mansfield - December 16, 2025 at 03:42 PM

LL

“ Lesa Ledford lit a candle in memory of Karen Sue Graham



Lesa Ledford - December 16, 2025 at 02:52 PM