



Mrs. Karen Arlene Smith

December 17, 1966 - September 25, 2025

Karen Arlene Smith was born on December 17, 1966, in Eclair, Wisconsin, to Robert Earl and Donna Jean Black, both of whom preceded her in death. She passed away in the afternoon of September 24, 2025, at her home in Foley, Alabama, at the age of 58, leaving behind a legacy of love, stubbornness, grit, and unforgettable personality.

Karen grew up in the military traveling around until her family was able to settle down in El Paso, Texas. She graduated from Hanks High School in 1984 and then continued her education at El Paso community college where she attained her bachelor's degree in accounting. During Those years she developed friendships and learned lessons which helped shape her strong and determined character.

Karen had a strong gift for caring and showing her love in her own unique way. She had a sharp tongue, a stubborn streak that could rival the best, and big heart that showed itself very clearly in the way that she cared for her people and all animals. She had a great passion for animal rescue and often found ways, big and small to help. Whether it was supporting a rescue, taking in an animal, or finding indirect ways to lend a hand, she always made a meaningful but quiet difference.

Karen carried a lifelong passion for New Orleans. Whether it was the beauty in the zydeco and jazz music, its fusion blend of French, Caribbean, African influenced architecture, or that unique Cajun culture It was a submersible experience that she never wanted to end while she would

enjoyed her beignets and café au lait at Café Du Mondé. If she was not there she definitely would be found at motorcycle rallies with her husband, both have fun and causing chaos with their friends' biker family.

Karen had two main ways that she showed that she loved and cared, by giving gifts and cooking homemade meals. She always made sure that anyone who was home was well taken care of and had everything that they could need. Her life was not without its struggles, but she met those challenges head on and with determination. She raised both her children with resilience, teaching them to stand tall for what they believe in, speaking their truth and never backing down when it really mattered. She had an undeniable strength and ability to shape her family for the better to prepare them for life's storms.

She leaves behind her husband, Paul Smith, her children Krystal Arlene (Daniel) Fillmore and Kristopher Edward (Erica) Baldner, and her grandchildren Psymon Allen, Madison Avery, Riley Arlene, and her brother Robert Trevor Black. Each of them has her love, lessons, and her snarky spirit with them moving forward.

Karen will be remembered for her undeniable stubbornness, her strength, her loyalty, her beautiful humor, and her unending love. She was one of a kind and those who knew her will always carry the memories of her.

A memorial ceremony will be held a Pine Rest Funeral Home in Foley, Alabama on October 17,2025 at 9am.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

OCT 17. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (CT)

Pine Rest Memorial Park
16541 US Hwy 98
Foley, AL 36535
(251) 943-5667
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