



Carolyn Kleifgen

December 20, 1927 - January 17, 2020

Ms. Carolyn Kleifgen gained Eternal Rest on Friday, January 17th, 2020. Born in Indianapolis, Indiana on December 20, 1927, Carolyn grew up in the Irvington neighborhood with her mother and three older brothers, her father having passed during her infancy. She graduated from Howe High School in 1945, Purdue University in 1949, and earned her Master's Degree from Indiana University.

Like her mother before her, Carolyn was called to the teaching profession, and taught Home Economics at the University of Chicago High School and then Lawrence Central High School in Indianapolis. Carolyn also taught as an exchange teacher in Yorkshire, England for a year before accepting a position at the new North Central High School in Indianapolis, where she taught for many years. She is especially remembered for spearheading North Central's Style Show, wherein students showcased sewing creations under her careful guidance.

Ms. Kleifgen loved to travel and saw much of Europe, Australia, Russia, and New Zealand through her role as a teacher-leader for People to People International, a summer student-exchange program. She was an avid gardener and could be seen attending to her yard on any day weather allowed. She attended the Indianapolis Symphony for decades and was an ardent fan of anything Purdue or Indianapolis Colts. A very social woman, she also enjoyed playing Bridge with a group of close friends.

Carolyn's devotion to her family was legendary. She knitted sweaters, gave

gifts from around the world, offered a sympathetic ear, and sought ways to support her numerous nieces and nephews on countless occasions. She had an infectious laugh, a big smile, and an open door. She will be sorely missed by all who were fortunate to call her “Aunt” and ‘friend”.

Ms. Kleifgen was preceded in death by her parents, William and Elsie (Agnew) Kleifgen Carlisle, stepfather George Carlisle, brothers William (Helen), Casper (Mildred) and James(Helen), nieces, Ann (Kleifgen) Brown, Susie (Kleifgen) Jackson, Gloria (Kleifgen) Anderson and Kristie Kleifgen; and nephew, Rick Kleifgen. She is survived by nieces Kay (Kleifgen) Harris and Janet (Kleifgen) Herrick, numerous great-nieces and great-nephews; and numerous great-great-nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be Saturday, January 25, 2020 from 11:00 a.m. until the time of service at 1:00 p.m. at First Baptist Church, 8600 North College Avenue, Indianapolis.

Cemetery Details

Washington Park East

10612 E. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46229

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 25. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

First Baptist Church
8600 North College Avenue
Indianapolis, IN 46240

Funeral Service

JAN 25. 1:00 PM (ET)

First Baptist Church
8600 North College Avenue
Indianapolis, IN 46240

Tribute Wall

LC

“ Love and miss you. I learned about gardening from grandpa a you. You hosted many occasions I will pick a couple of them out. The most impressive one is Princess Diane’s wedding. The other was Thanksgiving. So glad Tommy was able to help. I know he makes me so proud. Till we meet again Aunt Carolyn ❤️

Lisa Cullison - November 29, 2025 at 03:59 PM

MM

“ I miss you every day and I’m just so thankful for all your love and support!
Never forgotten and forever missed til we’re all together again!
RIP sweet aunt

Mary K McDonald - July 05, 2025 at 08:43 PM

NG

“ To the Family,

Your aunt was one of my best teachers at North Central High School. I was a student helper in the home economics department for three years and I learned a lot from her. I learned to knit in her class and today I knit prayer shawls with a group from my church. Over the years I would run into her at a restaurant or the symphony and she always remembered me. God rest her soul.

*Nancy Keith Gordon
Indianapolis*

Nancy Gordon - February 02, 2020 at 05:20 PM

BK

“ *To the Family*

*We already miss her
After many year of friendship, its sad to hear she passed away.*

*Kirsten and Bent
Denmark*

Bent and Kirsten - February 02, 2020 at 11:13 AM

LC

“ *Miss you already! So does Tommy and Beka and the kids.
Especially Alayna. Tommy hadn't told her yet Friday night, she was
under the cover with her iPad and she overheard Tommy talking to
a friend of yours on the phone telling her of your passing she bolted
to Beka and was crying so hard finally Beka got her to settle down
enough to tell her what was wrong, she said why didn't you tell me
she died? Broke my heart. You really touched my family with all
your kindness. Thank you for ALWAYS being there. Love you
Out of everyone in my family you were the closest person to Tommy
he learned so much from you. You had so many stories to share
and memories.*

Lisa Cullison - January 21, 2020 at 12:33 PM