



## Karen L. Rehkemper

July 20, 1948 - September 13, 2021

Karen Louise Rehkemper, age 73 of Highland, IL, died Monday, September 13, 2021, at her residence in Highland, IL.

She was born on Tuesday, July 20, 1948, in Joliet, IL, the daughter of Harry and Marilyn (nee Eib) Overpeck.

On Saturday, July 27, 1968, she married Charles Leo Rehkemper at Joliet, IL, who passed away on Sunday, July 15, 2001.

She was a member of St. James Catholic Church.

Karen grew up in Joliet, IL and was married to Charles in 1968, who passed away in 2001. Their son, Adrian was born in 1969. Karen received her BA at SIU-Edwardsville and completed her doctoral studies at St. Louis University. In 1978, the family moved into their 100-year old farm home; where they began training and raising racking horses. They managed and trained horses at Rehkemper Stables and owned, trained, and showed championship horses in (9) states. Karen had her Master of Science degrees in Spanish, French and Gifted Education. Karen was a World Languages Dept. Chair at Metro Academic and Classical Academy in St. Louis where she headed the Advanced College Credit Program and the National Honor Society. Karen hosted and enjoyed several exchange students. Karen was a travel agent at

Travel One in Highland since 1984. They spent their free time traveling; visiting all seven continents. Karen taught water aerobics at the Korte Rec Center, participated at the St. Joseph's Hospital Senior Renewal Program, and St. Paul Catholic Church's Cursillo program.

Survivors include:

Son - Adrian J. (Nicole R.) Rehkemper, Wickliffe, KY

Grandson - Ryan C. Rehkemper, Wickliffe, KY

Grandson - Evan D. Rehkemper, Wickliffe, KY

Grandson - Garren J. Rehkemper, Wickliffe, KY

Sister - Susan K. (Paul) Batozech, Channahon, IL

Niece - Carrie M. (Kyle) O'Keefe

She was preceded in death by:

Father - Harry Martin Overpeck

Mother - Marilyn B. Overpeck (nee Eib)

Husband - Charles Leo Rehkemper - Married 7/27/1968 - Died 07/15/2001

Second Husband - Warren G. Mocaby - Married 5/9/2009 - Died 7/28/2016

Arrangements are being handled by Spengel-Boulanger Funeral Home in Highland, IL.

Visitation will be held from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM on Wednesday, September 15, 2021, at Spengel-Boulanger Funeral Home in Highland, IL and from 8:30 AM to 9:00 AM on Thursday, September 16, 2021, at Spengel-Boulanger Funeral Home in Highland, IL.

Funeral Service will be at 9:00 AM on Thursday, September 16, 2021, at Spengel-Boulanger Funeral Home in Highland, IL.

Interment will be at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery in St. Louis, MO.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Paul School Educational Foundation.

# Previous Events

## Evening Visitation

SEP **15.** 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Spengel-Boulanger Funeral Home - Highland

1501 9th Street

P.O. Box 187

Highland, IL 62249

(618) 654-2133

[info@spengel-boulanger.com](mailto:info@spengel-boulanger.com)

# Tribute Wall

JO

“ Karen & Warren helped deliver Meals on Wheels to Bond County area clients. I remember visiting with her and loved hearing all her interesting travels. She had a great smile! Jill (Jones) Ohnesorge

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**Jill Ohnesorge** - September 28, 2021 at 01:05 PM

CK

“ I just learned of Karen's passing and wanted the family to know she will be in my thoughts and prayers. Karen was one of our facilitators at Starting Over, a widowed support group, in Belleville at the Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows. She was always smiling, very accomplished and always ready with helpful ideas and plans. I know her family and the people in her life in Illinois will miss her and all her activities. God bless Karen's family & friends!

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**Carol Kniepkamp** - September 27, 2021 at 10:42 AM

DI

“ Karen was a great teacher who shared her love of learning and understanding different cultures. She never lost faith in the capacity of her students to grow and learn.

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**Debbie Irwin** - September 19, 2021 at 04:19 PM

BP

“ Alex and I would like to extend our condolences. She was our travel agent in the past few years, and she was great to deal with. Also super nice out in public when she would see us at Walmart. Will be missed.

*Becky & Alex Pranaitis*

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**Becky Pranaitis** - September 18, 2021 at 11:02 AM

BS

“ My sincere condolences to Karen's family. I so loved attending her water aerobics classes at the Korte Recreation Center. She was so inspiring to keep me exercising and I'm sure she was a wonderful Spanish teacher as well. I will always remember her.

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**Betty Sappington** - September 16, 2021 at 09:54 PM

JE

“ What a wonderful teacher! I am still telling my kids stories that came from her today. This is one person who will be missed by many. Wishing the family peace as they move through this time.

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**Joy Eickmeier** - September 16, 2021 at 07:10 AM

NB

“ She will be deeply missed. She was one of my favorite teachers at Metro High School.

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**Niki Bridges** - September 15, 2021 at 11:22 PM

DS

“ One of my favorite teachers at Metro, even though I only ever took one Spanish course from her. She was a mentor and a friend, as well as a terrific travel agent. Our deepest condolences to her family...

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**Dave Silverman** - September 15, 2021 at 06:05 PM

JC

“ I am so saddened to hear this news. Karen and I were the foreign language department at Metro -- she taught Spanish, and I taught French. She was a very dedicated teacher, and a good friend. I was glad to know that she was able to travel so much after retiring from teaching. My deepest sympathies to her family and friends.

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**Judith Chabot** - September 15, 2021 at 05:38 PM

KP

“ *Such sad news. I knew Karen through the travel industry. I and had been on quite a few trips with her, she always had a smile on her face ! RIP Karen.....you will be missed.*

Kathie Pickering - September 15, 2021 at 03:34 PM

MB

“ *My deepest sympathy goes to the family thoughts prayers love hugs. She was a great friend beautiful inside and outside. Wonderful memories great friend*

Mary beth Broughton - September 15, 2021 at 02:13 PM

MB

“ *Mary Beth Broughton lit a candle in memory of Karen L. Rehkemper*



Mary beth Broughton - September 15, 2021 at 02:12 PM

VB

“ *I have so many wonderful memories of Karen and our adventures. We traveled to 6 continents together, including Antarctica. Every autumn we would go to a craft fair each weekend. I will miss you my friend!*

victoria boyd - September 15, 2021 at 11:39 AM