



## Karla Neely

April 8, 1954 - December 20, 2018

The Neely Family of Madison County mourn the passing of Karla Ann Zieba Neely, who was the beloved wife of Michael L. Neely and daughter –in-law of Retired General and former Madison County Judge, Cecil Neely and Margie Lynn Hardy Neely. Karla passed away in Austin, TX on December 20, 2018. Karla was born on April 8, 1954 in Lorain County, OH to Joseph Zieba, a retired judge, and Ella Stone, a very beautiful fashion model. She grew up in a home with 4 sisters, Joellen, Spring, Lorraine, and Linda. At the age of 4, Karla saw a landscape that was being painted on a wall of her family home by the renowned artist, Wilhelm Kuhn. This inspired Karla to become an artist and she was able to hone and enjoy her craft for the next 60 years of her life. She pursued a bachelor's of fine arts in painting and sculpture at the University of Ohio, graduating summa cum laude. She created her artwork in a variety of media, moving seamlessly between oil, acrylic, pen and ink, watercolor, and stone. She exhibited her work throughout the Houston and Galveston area.

In June of 1985, Karla married Michael in Madisonville. Four years later, Karla and Mike welcomed their son, Michael Ryan Neely to the family. She was a wonderful, creative wife who brought great joy to her husband, Mike and her son, Ryan. She was devoted to her husband's career as an attorney and later, to her son's career as an actor and producer, reading constantly about ways to help and involving herself in every detail. A lifelong learner, her interests included the study of the church from its early beginnings through medieval

times, philosophy, classical music, art history and political theory. She was an avid hiker and loved being outdoors in nature. She also loved to travel and always spoke about the perfect trip she took with her husband and son to the historic castles and abbeys in Scotland and England, including Lindisfarne, the holy island.

Karla saw beauty in everything and later in life she took to the camera with a keen eye for the art in nature. She continued her art in her family and always said that her son was her greatest work of art. She cherished every moment she spent with her son and husband- holding onto every piece of paper, funny text, cartoon, wine bottle, or really anything at all that represented a good memory. Among her favorite activities were laughing hysterically with her sister, Joellen and watching the snow fall on Christmas Day in Ohio.

Karla is preceded in death by her parents and her parents-in-law. She is survived by her husband of 33 years, Michael, her son Ryan, her sisters Joellen Kessler, Spring Frey, Lorraine Zieba, Linda Gerek, and many nieces and nephews.

Serving as pallbearers are Russell Neely, Jim Standley, Joey Smith, Jay Hardy, Jacob Neely, and Logan Prati.

Funeral services are scheduled for 11AM on Friday; December 28, 2018 at Day funeral Home Chapel in Madisonville, Tx with Bro. Jim Jackson officiating. A visitation will begin at 10AM prior to the service. The burial will follow at Madisonville City Cemetery.

# Tribute Wall

BW

“ *Michael, Ryan and Family,  
I am sorry to respond so long after Karla’s passing, but I just learned of her death and wanted to express my deepest condolences. I knew Karla at Lorain High and we stayed in touch for a little while after that. She was a beautiful girl from inside out, and I am sure she continued to grow in beauty and generosity as she matured. She was so fortunate to have you all as a source of joy in her life, and you are blessed to have had her in yours. My heart is broken for you and for myself. God Bless You.*

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**Bob Welter** - August 24, 2019 at 12:07 PM

LC

“ *My sincere condolences. I remember Karla Zieba from Lorain High School. Trying to recall which class or classes. I believe it was Bill Provident's Art Class.  
'Welcome Home My Friend'  
L J Coon  
starrtrac6@aol.com*

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**L J Coon** - January 15, 2019 at 01:33 PM

JF

“ *With deepest sympathy for Karla's family. I'm so sorry for your loss. Karla and I shared many great times in Art Class together at LHS, and after graduation. She helped me find my first apartment in Cleveland when I transferred from LCCC to Cleveland State University. I drove to her apartment near Columbus for a visit when she attended OSU. (We shared a love for art - she was far more talented than I was.) I remember lots of laughter and reminiscing about our art classes together at LHS.*

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**Jill Fosmire** - January 07, 2019 at 08:12 PM

CW

“ Dear Michael, Ryan and family,  
I had thinking of your family over the holidays and woke in the middle of the night last night thinking about Ryan. I was deeply saddened to hear of your loss. I have beautiful memories of you family and Karla and raising our sons together. Through trading our boys on each other's knees in kindergarten, Les Miserable, sleep overs, graduations and beyond. I always knew Karla to be a compassionate, kind, committed, creative and loving friend and mother.

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**carol watkins** - January 06, 2019 at 02:40 PM

DF

“ Sincere condolences to Karla's family. A lot of memories from Lorain School.

*Dennis Friess*

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**Dennis Friess** - January 05, 2019 at 03:00 PM

LD

“ Lilly Driver lit a candle in memory of Karla Neely



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**lilly driver** - January 05, 2019 at 10:34 AM

DG

“ Karla was a student of mine. Her talent was obvious as a 9th grader. I had the pleasure of watching her develop her artistic talent during her high school years. I want to express my regret to the family.

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**Darrell Groves** - January 04, 2019 at 01:19 AM

 Susan  
Garbo

“ *Deepest Sympathy to Karla's Family. It has been many years but I remember the fun times and friendship we shared.*

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**Susan Garbo** - December 29, 2018 at 07:06 AM

FF

“ *My sincere condolences. I have fond memories from high school.*

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**Fred Farschman** - December 28, 2018 at 11:11 PM

BS

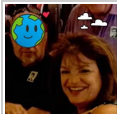
“ *So sorry to see this ———  
deepest condolences to her  
husband, son, and family.*

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**bill schuffert** - December 28, 2018 at 10:07 PM

PW

*So sorry for your loss.she was such a fun person to be around at school*

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**Patricia Wolanczyk** - January 03, 2019 at 05:56 AM



*So sorry to hear of Karla's passing... truly a great spirit. My deepest sympathy to her family.*

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**Bruce Bevan** - January 04, 2019 at 11:26 AM

SH

*So sad. I have fond memories of our youth. Prayers are with the family.*

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**Sandee Nelson Hutchinson** - January 04, 2019 at 07:26 PM