



Karen Eileen Jones

April 28, 1948 - January 17, 2026

Karen E. Jones, 78, treasured daughter, wife, educator, servant leader, and cherished friend, passed away peacefully after a courageous and lengthy battle with Parkinson's disease. She leaves behind a legacy of faith, discipline, compassion, and an unwavering devotion to the lives she touched. Karen was born in Dubois, Pennsylvania, to the late Charles and Doris Hovey, who instilled in her the values of hard work, service, and integrity that would guide her throughout her life.

She pursued her passion for education by earning a Bachelor of Arts in Physical Education, after which she began her distinguished career with the New York City Board of Education. There, she served as a Physical Education teacher and coach, inspiring young women through girls' gymnastics and cheerleading. Her commitment to excellence in both academics and character development led her to earn two Master's degrees. One in Physical Education and the other in Administration and Supervision, which culminated in her role as a Junior High School Administrator.

It was during her years in education that Karen found the love of her life, Ralph Jones. Their partnership was one of deep respect, joy, and unwavering devotion.

Karen was widely known for her remarkable discipline paired with a deeply caring spirit. She led with both strength and grace, always encouraging others to believe in themselves and strive for more.

After retiring from the New York City School System, Karen and Ralph moved

to Myrtle Beach, where they found their forever home—and Karen found her forever happy place, the beach. There, she continued her lifelong commitment to fitness, service, and faith as a devoted Christian and servant leader within her church community. She also treasured the many social gatherings shared with her longtime friends, whose companionship brought her great joy.

Even in her later years, Karen never stopped nurturing young minds, offering wisdom, encouragement, and love to all who crossed her path. She was truly a bright light—one whose presence uplifted every room and every heart she touched.

Karen is survived by her loving and devoted husband, Ralph Jones; daughter Cherrie Davis. She is also remembered by Amanda (Bryan) Simmons, the daughter of her beloved husband; her grandchildren (2) and great-grandchild; her nephews, Ben Hovey and Derek (Michelle) Hovey; her cousin, Corey (Vicky) Jacobs; and a host of extended family members and friends who will forever cherish her memory.

Acknowledgment

The family of Karen E. Jones sincerely thanks you for your prayers, love, and support during this time of bereavement. Special acknowledgement is extended to Paula Gillis, Lisa Shy, Vicky Jacobs, and Andy Gray. Your presence and kindness are deeply appreciated and will forever be remembered.

Closing Thought

“Well done, good and faithful servant.”

— Matthew 25:23

Karen's funeral ceremony may be viewed at: <https://vimeo.com/event/567960>

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Funeral Services Entrusted To:

Goldfinch Beach Chapel

11528 Hwy 17 Byp, Murrells Inlet, SC 29576

(843) 651-3295

www.goldfinchfuneralhome.com

Previous Events

Funeral Ceremony

JAN **23**. 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM (ET)

Goldfinch Funeral Home
11528 Highway 17 Bypass
Murrells Inlet, SC 29576
(843) 651-3295
info@goldfinchfuneralhome.com
<https://www.goldfinchfuneralhome.com>

Burial

JAN **23**. 12:00 PM - 12:30 PM (ET)

Hillcrest Cemetery
1000 Hwy 544
Conway, SC 29526
(843) 347-4909
<https://www.hillcrestcemetery.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Goldfinch Funeral Services created a Webcast in memory of Karen Eileen Jones*



Goldfinch Funeral Home - January 23 at 09:04 AM



“ *Goldfinch Funeral Services created a Tribute Video in memory of Karen Eileen Jones*



Goldfinch Funeral Home - January 20 at 02:17 PM

DB

My deepest sympathy to the family during this difficult time 🌸

Daphne Bacchus - January 21 at 08:54 AM

MF

Beautiful pictures Ralph. May Karen watch over you and all your family.

Madeline M Fetzko - January 21 at 08:37 PM

JO

Cherrie this is such a beautiful and touching tribute. I am so sorry for your loss.

Joi - January 22 at 07:09 PM

NN

“ *Sending my deepest condolences to her daughter Cherrie, her husband, and the rest of Karen’s family. I pray God surrounds you with his love, comfort, and peace.*

- Nashonne

Nashonne Newman - January 23 at 01:10 PM

RJ

“ *Sending our deepest condolences to Cherrie, Ralph and those who loved and were loved by Karen. May God comfort you during this difficult time.*

Rochelle, Stephanie and Helen Jackson

Rochelle Jackson - January 23 at 09:48 AM

RJ

“ *Rochelle J. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Karen Eileen Jones.*

Rochelle J. - January 23 at 09:43 AM

PJ

“ Prince and Nancy Patterson Jernigan; Ralph, we extend sincere condolences on the loss of your wife Karen; may she rest in peace and light perpetual shine upon her. We are sure that the members of the Winston-Salem State University Class of 1973 also extend their condolences as well. May the Lord bring comfort to you in this difficult time. The Jernigans - Severna Park, MD.



Prince and Nancy Jernigan - January 22 at 10:16 PM

DF

“ Damonte F. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Karen Eileen Jones.

Damonte F. - January 22 at 09:50 PM

CF

“ Carolina F. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Karen Eileen Jones.

Carolina F. - January 22 at 09:47 PM

MF

“ Madeline F. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Karen Eileen Jones.

Madeline F. - January 22 at 07:27 PM

JO

“ Cherrie I am so sorry for your loss. I pray that God will cover you and the family during this time and beyond. 🙏

Joi - January 22 at 07:12 PM

MD

“ Mandisa Diggs purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Karen Eileen Jones.



Mandisa Diggs - January 22 at 12:54 PM

TF

“ The Tully family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Karen Eileen Jones.



The Tully family - January 22 at 10:26 AM

AG

“ Andy & Jo Ann Gray planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Karen Eileen Jones.

Andy & Jo Ann Gray - January 21 at 11:11 PM

AG

“ Andy & Jo Ann Gray purchased the *Divine Peace Bouquet* for the family of Karen Eileen Jones.



Andy & Jo Ann Gray - January 21 at 11:11 PM

JH

“ John & Alison Hunt purchased the *Peaceful White Lilies Basket* for the family of Karen Eileen Jones.



John & Alison Hunt - January 21 at 10:53 PM

SW

“ Samuel Kargbo & Denise Watson-Kargbo purchased the *Emerald Garden Basket* for the family of Karen Eileen Jones.



Samuel Kargbo & Denise Watson-Kargbo - January 21 at 03:54 PM

SW

“ Samuel Kargbo & Denise Watson-Kargbo planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Karen Eileen Jones.

Samuel Kargbo & Denise Watson-Kargbo - January 21 at 03:54 PM

JR

“ Joanne Revis planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Karen Eileen Jones.

Joanne Revis - January 21 at 05:10 AM

JR

“ Joanne Revis purchased the Heavenly Heights Bouquet for the family of Karen Eileen Jones.



Joanne Revis - January 21 at 05:10 AM

LC

“ My deepest sympathies to Karen's family and friends. I knew her through a mutual friend and loved her bright shining spirit and her ever present kindness and grace. She will be missed by everyone whose lives she touched.

Lori St. Clair - January 20 at 09:27 AM

L(

“ Love, Shelle and Carole (mom) purchased the Ocean Breeze Spray for the family of Karen Eileen Jones.



Love, Shelle and Carole (mom) - January 20 at 09:22 AM

JE

“ Jennifer E. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Karen Eileen Jones.

Jennifer E. - January 20 at 08:13 AM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Karen Eileen Jones.



January 19 at 06:26 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Karen Eileen Jones.



January 19 at 05:20 PM

FD

“ From; Larry and Janice Drake planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Karen Eileen Jones.

From; Larry and Janice Drake - January 19 at 05:12 PM



“ *Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Karen Eileen Jones.*



January 19 at 05:12 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Karen Eileen Jones.*



January 19 at 01:27 PM



“ *Gerry Polony planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Karen Eileen Jones.*

Gerry Polony - January 19 at 01:27 PM