



Karen Walker Boddie

March 31, 1943 - December 4, 2020

Karen Elizabeth Walker Boddie was born on March 31, 1943, at Freedmen's Hospital in Washington , DC to the late Marjorie Golden Anderson and Loyd Arthur Walker. She is the oldest of 3 children: Arthur Burwell Walker, and Kemba Linda Walker. Karen married Cleo Boddie, Jr. and were blessed with one child Jeffrey Christopher Boddie.

Karen grew up in Carver Terrace at 853 21st Street, NE and attended Charles Young Elementary, Brown Jr. High and Spingarn High School 1958-1961. She received her Confirmation at Calvary Episcopal Church. Her younger years were filled with ballet and Girls Scouts.

Karen's eye for fashion started in high school, where she designed and made her own clothes due to her height. Always looking at magazines and people watching, she created some amazing designs. She joined Tracy's Mannequins in the late 60's and modeled with them for 10 years. After declining an offer from Vogue Esquire because the job required a great deal of traveling and she didn't want to leave her young son Jeffrey, Karen was often asked to commentate local fashion shows. She was quite familiar with

designers, fabrics, textures, colors etc. and used colorful descriptions of styles and models as they walked the runway.

Karen made Atlanta, GA her second home where she spent more than half her adult life there (35 years). She loved to thrift shop and play cards.

Karen was a life member with The Order Of The Eastern Stars for over 20 years with Joppa Temple & Electa Grand Chapter. She served in several chapters (Daughters of Tyre Chapter #349, Diamonds of Atlanta, Sister of Peace) just to name a few. Throughout her life as an Eastern Star, Karen sat in several Grand seats with Electa Grand Chapter. Her favorite was sitting as Queen Esther. Karen inspired a lot of young women with the service that she gave to the community.

Karen was also a Past Worthy Matron who trained and mentored several sisters in various areas of being a good Eastern Star. Whenever a sister needed to talk, she would be there. Karen was a pillar to all the sisters in the Eastern star world. Karen's charity work ranged from doing the March of Dimes walk, Susan B. Anthony Breast Cancer, The Saint Jude walk, feeding the homeless, etc. When it came down to knowing what it truly means to be a sister Karen was that sister. Karen exemplified all 5 points of being an Outstanding Eastern Star.

Left to celebrate her life and cherish her memory are her loving son Jeffrey C. Boddie (Tonya), her grandchildren Justin, Daniel and Sasha, her brother Arthur and sister Kemba, Aunt Joan Anderson, many nieces and nephews, great nephews and nieces, a host of other relatives and her best friend Yvonne Conway along with many other friends.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

MAR 31. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Pope Funeral Home Washington Chapel
2617 Pennsylvania Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20020

Tribute Wall



“ *Pope Funeral Homes created a Webcast in memory of Karen Walker Boddie*



Pope Funeral Homes - March 31, 2021 at 10:41 AM



“ *Karen Walker Boddie*

January 28, 2023 at 02:13 PM



“ *Karen Walker Boddie*

January 28, 2023 at 10:26 AM



“ *Kemba Walker lit a candle in memory of Karen Walker Boddie*



Kemba Walker - April 02, 2021 at 02:06 PM

EH

“ *Esther Smith Henry lit a candle in memory of Karen Walker Boddie*



Esther Smith Henry - March 31, 2021 at 12:31 PM

EH

“ *I met you on Girard Street N. W., DC at your grandpa house and Jeffery was 2 years old. I had moved in a boarding house. I watched you constantly because you were always dressed on points even in jeans.*

One day I just boldly walked up and introduced myself. You talked to me for about one hour. I said to myself this gal can talk. And that laugh was so infectious I couldn't help myself from laughing.

You dragged me into modeling and politics for Ward 8. Then I followed you almost everywhere and hot to meet the family. I went on the train with the aunts playing cards all the way to the casino. To New York, ATL, Mexico and many places.

Karen I love you I have too many stories to tell, but when I walked into your Atl home and saw that big picture of me with your award winning outfit I was floored. Thanks for giving my sister Pat a room in your home. Also the big seafood pot. Thanks for teaching me so many things and for our fashion group FASHION LTD with Bertha Graves and many younger models who supported us intuned which supported Ward 8. Miss yo 4ever.

Esther Smith Henry - March 31, 2021 at 11:05 AM

GD

“ My sincere condolences to the family. Karen was a "sister friend" such a beautiful woman, always filled with good spirits. She will be sorely missed. Karen, may you rest in peace in heaven.

Gwen Diaite - March 31, 2021 at 10:20 AM

GD

“ My sincere condolences to family doing this very difficult time. I will forever remember the wonderful memories we shared. May Karen rest in peace in heaven.

Gwen Diaite - March 31, 2021 at 04:43 AM

MC

“ Karen was a positive and uplifting presence in my life. She supported my dreams of getting a bachelor of social work degree by renting a room in her house, feeding my soul and spirit with delicious crab legs and teaching me to play spades and bid whist. She had an eye for beautiful jewelry, black art and a green thumb that could bring any plant back to life. She gave me a Swiss Cheese plant as a housewarming gift and it's growing tall and strong like Karen. She got me to DC to witness Obama's first inauguration at the last minute and invited me to a house party that I'll never forget. When you were in Karen's presence there was always laughter and knowledge. My family adored her and always had an open invitation for her to visit in Chicago. Karen's generous and caring spirit will live on through the lives she touched and her family. Rest well and be an angel to all of us, Karen.

Myra Crawford - March 30, 2021 at 09:42 AM

DJ

“ My condolences to the Boddie family for their loss. A beautiful angel has found her wings. My fondest memory of Karen is her laughter. As a child I accompanied my mom to her home and as the kids played in the other room all you could hear was cards hitting the table, music and adults having fun. Hold on to the memories as they will provide you with the grace to carry on.

Donna Johnson

Donna Johnson - March 29, 2021 at 02:20 PM

JC

“ Karen,

The lyric says, "It's so hard to say goodbye to yesterday". Those memories linger on, long after the day is gone. I remember with great fondness the days we shared walking home from Charles Young. Karen Walker, President of FTA Spingarn HS; memories, like the corners of our mind...of the way we were. Gonna miss your light but I'll remember the twinkle of your star, the friend you were, the friend you are.

*John Claggett
Class of '61*

John Claggett - March 29, 2021 at 10:45 AM

RS

Find memories of you Kareem, your spirit full of life and energy. Memories of Girl Scout days with our Charles Young troop which continued through high school. Always looked forward to playing Pinochle when you and Yvonne returns to DC. Rest In Peace. Condolences to your siblings, your son and other family members. You are missed.

Renee Garnes Spence - March 30, 2021 at 09:02 AM

RE

“ To the family of Karen Boddie, you have our sincerest sympathies. May God’s presence surround you during this difficult period.

I will always remember Karen was one of the best-dressed and sassiest “Sistas” I have ever had the pleasure of knowing.

May she rest in Eternal Power!

Reuben & Rene Underwood

Reuben - March 29, 2021 at 10:30 AM

JB

“ My condolences to the entire family and friends of Karen Boddie; and I add friends because her friends were and extension of her family. Boddie made you feel at home as if you were a member of her family; whenever you were around her. She was always smiling and busy being the perfect hostess/ that was just the nature of her being. I met Boddie more than fifty some years ago through her younger sister. Karen Boddie, we all will miss how you were always in motion, just doing things. And that laughter of yours when you were really tickled; anyone who knows you will remember - you made people laugh with you. See you on the other side Boddie



Jacqueline Bass - March 28, 2021 at 06:10 PM



I met Karen when I moved to Atlanta in the early 90's. We instantly connected and became roommates who had so much in common. Karen welcomed me into her home and we agreed that I'd do the cooking and she would clean. I always admired Karen because she was so graceful, funny, direct and down right adorable. She was courageous and never afraid to speak her mind. I will always cherish the memories of my years of knowing her and our lady phone conversation. Rest on my sister! You will be missed by many.

Audrey Pontarelli - March 29, 2021 at 05:57 PM

AB

“ To Karen: What I will remember most about you is your genuineness. You spoke your mind with no hesitation. There are no little "yous" nor big "Is". You treated everyone the same. You showed love and gave love to everyone. I miss you my friend. Thank you from Audrey Bryant

Audrey Bryant - March 28, 2021 at 01:41 PM

SR

“ Praying that GOD provides strength and encouragement to the entire family at this most difficult time. You have my sincerest condolences!

Suzan N. Richardson

Suzan N Richardson - March 28, 2021 at 12:06 PM

RE

“ My sincere condolences to the Boddie Family. My sincere condolences to Aunt Karen's lifelong friends and us/kids. She affectionately gave me the name Mumsy and forever called me by that name since I was a little girl. Will miss you.

Renee - March 27, 2021 at 08:49 AM



“ *Cheeseboard Complete was purchased for the family of Karen Walker Boddie.*



March 24, 2021 at 07:21 PM



“ *Sorry For Your Loss,, Jesus Christ Loves Me,.We Love You*



Thomas Widgeon - March 24, 2021 at 11:47 AM



“ *Karen was my dear friend Kemba’s sister and I was saddened to hear of her passing. I always enjoyed spending time with Karen when she came to visit. We always had a good time hanging out and enjoying each other’s company. She had a kind, generous spirit and will be missed by all who knew and loved her. May we all find comfort in our memories of Karen and a life well lived. My prayers and condolences to the entire family.*

Shirley Snead - March 23, 2021 at 10:50 PM