



Janelle Carson

February 13, 1951 - July 30, 2024

Janelle Louise Cowan Carson, 73, Topeka, Kansas, passed away on July 30, 2024. She was born February 13, 1951, the daughter of Joe and Lois Gimlin Cowan.

Janelle loved life, having many adventures including living in Denmark, trips to New York City, living her hippy days in Mill Valley, California, and time in Denver, Colorado. She graduated from Junction City High School in 1969, earned her BLA from Metropolitan State College of Denver in 1977, and later earned her MSW from University of Kansas. Janelle married James "Jim" Carson in Las Vegas, Nevada on August 7, 1981. They lived in Chicago for several years, returning to Topeka and opening Jacs Liquor Store at 21st and Fairlawn. They were big KU and Chiefs fans.

Janelle also loved being in social work and working with children. Enjoying her years at Quincy and HPC Elementary Schools and finishing her career at Chase Middle School.

Antiquing was her favorite past time, as well as enjoying flea markets, thrift stores and garage sales. Their home was filled with the treasures Janelle would find.

Though her faith in Jesus was strong, Janelle did have a belief and love of fairies. She had many beautiful fairy gardens throughout the years. Janelle was a very giving person; giving the shirt off her back if you were in need. Gift giving was another of her favorite things to do. Usually, gifts received from Janelle were unique treasures she procured from various flea markets, thrift stores or garage sales.

Janelle touched many lives and helped many children and their families. She will be greatly missed.

Janelle is survived by her sisters, Janet Lawson and Joanne Ax; sisters-in-law, Elaine Prosser and Connie Carson; and was Aunt Nell to many nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be 3 to 5 p.m. Saturday, August 3, 2024, at Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Road, Topeka KS 66614.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Helping Hands Humane Society and sent in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent online to www.kevinbrennanfamily.com

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 3. 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM (CT)

Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home
2801 SW Urish Road
Topeka, KS 66614
(785) 272-7888
info@kevinbrennanfamily.com

Tribute Wall



“ Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Janelle Carson



Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home - July 31, 2024 at 05:14 PM

LB

She was a very wonderful lady. She was my counselor in elementary school and she helped me out of some really dark situations that I was in. If it wasn't for her, I don't know where I would actually be at.

Laura D Bouton - August 11, 2024 at 02:04 PM

SW

“ I am sad to read that Janelle passed away. She and Jim were neighbors and lovely people. I have many fond memories of Janelle talking about the great finds she would stumble across at an antique store or garage sale. One of the kindest women I have had the honor of knowing. It is comforting knowing she and Jim are reunited. Prayers for the family.

Stephanie Weiter - August 16, 2024 at 11:29 AM

EL

“ Aunt Nell, you loved wholeheartedly. I love and miss you. You supported me (and my kids) in all ways, especially with all your beautifully written cards and calls. You were always encouraging and would tell me, in some way, that I am special and to keep dreaming. We had adventures around the country together (Chicago, GA, DC, Las Vegas, Cape May, CA....) but I know you'd agree that antiques and family time in KS was the best. I will continue to treasure those memories and actual treasures you gifted me (or you encouraged me to buy while shopping with me!). Thanks to you, I have a collection of antique purses (you gave me my 1st one!), luggage, art pottery, quilts, art deco... I'll make some of grandma's sugar cookies full of red hots in your honor. Paraphrasing 2 poets you introduced me to, "Hold fast to dreams" (Langston Hughes) "in the pleasant land of counterpane" (Robert Louis Stevenson- "some of my favorite poems because grandma loved them too"- your inscription in your 1999 'A Child's Garden of Verses' gift) You are special. Keep dreaming under a vintage counterpane/quilt, Aunt Nell. Love, Elissa

Elissa Lawson - August 01, 2024 at 09:35 PM

TG

“ Janelle was a wonderful person i knew Janelle im sending my symphaty to the Carson family may Janelle rest in peace 🙏 ☐ terry I glenn

Terry Glenn - July 31, 2024 at 11:17 PM

CM

“ Enjoyed working with Janelle at Landon Middle School. She was fun-loving and cared deeply for our students.
Cheryl McPherson

Cheryl McPherson - July 31, 2024 at 09:28 PM

KS

“ Such a kind lady! Always enjoyed her visits to our antique shop. Janelle had great taste in antiques and I was always pop-eyed at the treasures she'd collected over the years— great fun to have her show me around her home and hear the stories of each piece. Prayers for God's peace for her family.

kris dickerson saia - July 31, 2024 at 02:06 PM