



Karla Annette Kragelund

February 2, 1953 - December 12, 2025

Karla Annette Kragelund

Karla Annette Kragelund, beloved daughter, sister, aunt, friend, and dedicated educator,

passed away on December 12, 2025, at the age of 72. Born on February 2, 1953 in

Spokane Washington to Catherine and Carl Kragelund, Karla grew up surrounded by a

close-knit family who nurtured her lifelong passion for learning.

Karla's education journey began at Marycliff High school on Spokane's South Hill

neighborhood. She received her bachelor's degree from Eastern Washington University

and her Master's degree from City University.

She began her teaching career in Roseburg, Oregon, and while it was the spark igniting

her long teaching career, Roseburg was not her passion, so she moved to Vancouver,

Washington where she found her home in Evergreen School District at Crestline

Elementary. She taught special education and several elementary grades.

Karla quickly became involved in the Evergreen Education Association, at one time serving as Vice President. She also worked tirelessly at the state level with the WEA board and later with the WEA retired teacher's association. Karla retired from the school district in 2007 yet never stopped teaching.

Post-retirement, Karla quickly became an active member of the retired teacher's association. She became a lead presenter teaching seminars for other soon-to-be retirees. As part of this position, she traveled across Washington state, guiding teachers through their retirement process. She was still involved in the WEA retirees' group at the time of her death.

Karla believed that everyone could make a difference – even if it was one step at a time.

Outside of teaching, Karla had many passions. Top of the list - puzzles (of any kind!), spending time with her extended family, playing pinochle, water aerobics and her annual trips to Cannon Beach, OR. Karla could always be counted on for her quick wit and generous heart.

Karla was a wonderful, caring person. She was firm in her convictions and beliefs, living them fully every day. She did so much good for teachers and students. She led with humility and stood firm for the Evergreen Education Association (EEA) and Washington Education Association (WEA).

Karla is survived by her two sisters, Kris and Karen and her brother Keith, as well as many nieces and nephews. Karla will always be remembered as a beloved sister, loving aunt, loyal friend and devoted educator. We will all miss her dearly and take peace she is in a better place, playing endless rounds of pinochle with her mom and other family members who have gone before her.

Please join us for her Celebration of Life gathering, January 10, 2026, at Evergreen Memorial Gardens from 1-3pm.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to your favorite children's charity.

Previous Events

Hospitality

JAN 10. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (PT)

Evergreen Memorial Gardens Cemetery & Funeral Chapel

1101 NE 112th Ave.

Vancouver, WA 98684-4950

<http://www.evergreenmemorialgardens.com>

Tribute Wall

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“*Karla and I worked on many educational issues through WEA before and after we retired. Karla was always enthusiastic and could always be counted on to contribute in a thoughtful and thorough manner. Karla touched many lives and will be sorely missed. Prayers and comfort to all those who knew and loved Karla. Neva Luke*

NEVA C LUKE - January 08 at 07:53 PM

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“*I had the pleasure of working with Karla when I was a high school senior in 1978. I'd met with our school counselor and asked if I could help at a local school. Ms. Kragelund and her 3rd grade team at Crestline welcomed me into their classrooms and into the world of teaching. I worked with students who needed one-on-one help with reading. Karla's huge heart, compassion, and expectations for her students' success was amazing. She was always quick to smile, offer me suggestions, and respond to her students' needs instantly. I admired her greatly. I am now a retired educator myself after 30 years. I will always remember Karla with fondness.*

Please accept my sincere condolences for Miss Kragelund's family for her passing.

Doreen Wilsdon - December 16, 2025 at 11:23 AM