



## Ken Karlson

September 11, 1947 - April 23, 2026

Ken Karlson, 78, passed away on April 23, 2026. Born September 11, 1947, Ken "Sandy" was raised in Colorado City, Arizona, by his parents, Fern and Richard Jessop. He honorably served in the U.S. Army from 1967 to 1969, where he was awarded a Purple Heart for his service.

While attending Dixie State College, Ken met Fern Liddell. They were married on June 30, 1973, and built a beautiful life together in Southern Utah, raising six daughters. Known for his legendary work ethic, Ken founded his own curb and gutter business. He was a pioneer in his field, introducing the first curb machine to Southern Utah and forever changing the industry in the region. Even in retirement, Ken never slowed down. He was always immersed in a project, whether restoring homes or land, or meticulously working on his 1931 International truck.

Ken is survived by his six daughters: Teresa Fancy (Donavan), Juleen Karlson, Kendra Olson (Jason), Kandice Moss (Jared), Heidi Miller (Eric), and Kortney Tau'a (Taylor); 17 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and his siblings William Shapley, Judith Shapley, Sadie Beagley, Vivian Jessop, Rone Jessop, and Matt Jessop. He was preceded in death by his wife, Fern Liddell Karlson; his parents, Fern and Richard Jessop; his sister, Fern Lorraine Shapley; and his brothers, Ted Jessop and Tim Jessop.

Funeral services will be held on Saturday May 2, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. at Serentiy Funeral Home of Southern Utah located at 1316 S. 400 E. Ste A6, St. George, Utah. A viewing will be held prior to services from 9:30-10:30 a.m.

at the same location. Interment to follow at the Washington City Cemetery located at 300 Park View Drive, Washington, Utah at 12:30 p.m.

# Cemetery Details

## Washington City Cemetery

300 Park View Drive  
Washington, UT 84780

# Previous Events

## Viewing

**MAY 2.** 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (MT)

Serenity Funeral Home of Southern Utah  
1316 South 400 East, Suite A-5  
St. George, UT 84790  
(435) 986-2085  
mail@serenitystg.com

## Funeral Service

**MAY 2.** 11:00 AM (MT)

Serenity Funeral Home of Southern Utah  
1316 South 400 East, Suite A-5  
St. George, UT 84790  
(435) 986-2085  
mail@serenitystg.com

## Burial

MAY 2. 12:30 PM (MT)

Washington City Cemetery  
300 Park View Drive  
Washington, UT 84780

# Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the album *Funeral Audio Recording Part 2*



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**Serenity Funeral Home of Southern Utah** - May 04 at 05:08 PM



“ 1 file added to the album *Funeral Video Recording Part. 1*

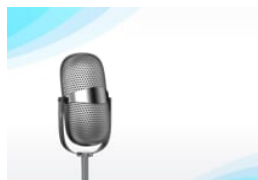


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**Serenity Funeral Home of Southern Utah** - May 04 at 04:19 PM



“ 1 file added to the album *Funeral Audio Recording*



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**Serenity Funeral Home of Southern Utah** - May 04 at 11:52 AM

KB

“ Keith & Ila Burgess purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Ken Karlson.



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Keith & Ila Burgess - May 01 at 01:22 PM

KB

“ Keith & Ila Burgess planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ken Karlson.

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Keith & Ila Burgess - May 01 at 01:22 PM

LF

“ Love from Rex and Sue Bingham Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Ken Karlson.



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Love from Rex and Sue Bingham Family - May 01 at 12:31 PM



“ Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ken Karlson.



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April 29 at 04:47 PM