



## Karen Kay Holland

March 18, 1937 - July 13, 2023

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Karen Kay Holland, 86, of Roland passed away July 13, 2023 at her home in Roland. Funeral services will be Wednesday July 19, 2023 at Salem Lutheran Church in Roland. Burial will follow in the Roland Cemetery. Visitation will be 1 hour prior to the service at the church.

Karen was born on March 18, 1937 in Marshalltown, Iowa to Ellis C. and Agnes (Wolf) Rockhill. She graduated from Ferguson High in 1955.

Karen worked at Moteaday, a department store in Marshalltown after graduation. When she moved to Roland she worked at Ames InCross until she had children. After the kids graduated she cleaned homes in the Ames area.

Karen met John Holland at Forest Park dances in Marshalltown. Ballroom dancing to big band music made her happy. Her favorite music came from the Kenny Hofer Band. Her favorite song to dance to was "Blue Skirt Waltz". Karen married John E. Holland on September 1, 1957. John and Karen continued to dance all through the 60's at the Moose Lodge, Marshalltown's Forest Park and small towns with big band music. Grandma Millie had baby sitting duties for the evenings out. John passed away in June 19, 2013. John and Karen were married for fifty-five years.

Karen was a member of Salem Lutheran Church for sixty-six years. After John died she joined Friends 'n Service. She enjoyed delivering May baskets and working at the refreshment stand at Hennessy Park. Tuesday night Friends 'n Service became the highlight of her week.

Karen grew indoor flowers, enjoyed gardening, doing puzzles and being an active parent when her two sons were growing up. Karen chaperoned Jr. Choir, was a den mother and a Sunday School helper while her children were growing up. If there was an ISU football, ISU men's basketball or ISU woman's basketball game on she was listening on the radio or TV to the event. Her favorite Friday night activity was tenderloin nights at the American Legion in Roland. Her catchall phrase was "you think so" followed by a laugh.

Karen is survived by her two sons, Bruce Holland of Scottsdale, AZ and Roger (Cindy) Holland of McCallsburg; five grandchildren, Allen, Tonya, Jenni, Jillian and Joanni 11 great grandchildren, Callie, Ellie, Virginia, Olive, Day, Keating, Tagen, Sebastien, Joe, Phoenix and Detrick.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, John and two brothers, Warren and Dave Rockhill.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Salem Lutheran Church or Bergen Lutheran Church.

Soderstrum Funeral Home is entrusted with arrangements.



## Cemetery

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ROLAND CEMETERY

59168 130th St.,  
Roland, IA 50236

## Events

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SERVICE

1:00 PM - 1:40 PM

Salem Lutheran  
Church 102 S. Main  
Street, Roland, IA  
50236



VISITATION

11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Salem Lutheran  
Church 102 S. Main  
Street, Roland, IA  
50236

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# Tribute Wall

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## Jillian

I remember visiting Grannie as a little girl. She took me on a tour of her garden. Just us. She was thrilled to show me her mustard seed growing. It was the first time I realized even condiments start with good dirt, care and patience. She sparked a foodie in me that still thrives today. You see, I was the kid that grabbed two pieces of bread, filled them with French's mustard, and sang "You are my sunshine. My only sunshine..." My afternoon snack was elevated that day. And my newfound knowledge of farm to table was solidified. But we all know Grannie was famous for her cookies. Adding a little bit of sugar to the table, ensuring smiles. Earlier this year, I asked her for her molasses cookie recipe. A friend mentioned she was struggling getting these right. And I knew just who to ask, Grannie. We attempted to bake but, when a package arrived from her kitchen we were presently surprised to find the real joy inside. My family, friends, and I treasured each bite. And smiles spread throughout our house. Grannie was thoughtful, kind, caring, and full of surprises. I will hold on to the memories of her in her element, spoiling everyone with treats, and reminding us that life should be enjoyed.



## Jillian

Beauty uplifts our souls. A token remembering Grannies green thumb. Thank you all for your efforts in providing her such a peaceful passage.



### " Heavenly Light "

was purchased for the family of Karen Kay Holland

Tribute Store

*Show your support with flowers*