



Carole Zanton

June 10, 1957 - May 20, 2019

When I have thought about heaven, I have always come back to that song, “I Can Only Imagine”. On Monday, May 20, 2019, I left this earth and walked through those beautiful gates. I no longer have to imagine.

Some of you may think my journey was cut too short, but it was a journey planned out by God and it was His perfect time I come home. This journey started on June 10, 1957 when I was born to my parents, Pastor Paul Brown and Fern Lofland. Over time I had several brothers including Phillip (Betty Sue) Brown, Matthew (Robin) Brown, Steve (Connie) Smith, Dennis (Marianne) James and Greg (Laura) James. As the only girl, I had to be tough, which served me well later in life.

On July 12, 2003, I married Jay Zanton. Now some of you probably believe I should be awarded sainthood for that act. Even my husband would say he married way over his head, but I believe God saw it differently and matched us perfectly. When we married, we created an immediate household of children, not his or her children, but our children. I was blessed previously with two sons, Adam (Lisa) Brothers and Chase Evans, both now deceased, but who now wait just beyond those gates. I have three daughters, Jacee (Logan) Anderson, Jaylyn Zanton and Jerica (David) Connor. I also was blessed with a son, Jayme (Kate) Zanton.

Jay and I also enjoyed our foreign born sons when we hosted them as foreign exchange students. Leo, Carlos, Ilyas, Andrea and Luka were then and still are a part of our family.

On to grandchildren! Yes, it is great to be a Lala. Before Adam passed, he gave me two beautiful grandchildren, Alexis Brothers and Aiden Carrico. Then Jacee blessed me with a granddaughter, Baylor Buchanan. Like most of you grandparents out there, they made my heart full.

I have several nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, aunts and uncles and so on who also blessed me with their spirit and love.

Unlike some people, I loved and adored my in-laws, William and Linda Zanton, who took me in as one of their own. I now get to visit my father-in-law, who passed away just a couple months ago.

I was diagnosed with Lupus shortly after my marriage to Jay and several other sister ailments along the way. I struggled, but with the love shown by many of you, and the toughness instilled by my brothers, I endured and got to experience the joys of life. I enjoyed my Rock Church family and praising God, sitting on the front porch of the house admiring my flowers and watching our dogs. I enjoyed Sunday afternoon drives in the convertible. I loved working with my hospital family at St. Mary's Hospital in Centralia for 35 years in cardiology. Most importantly, any time spent with family was precious time. My journey on earth is over, but my eternity in Heaven begins. I will wait by the gates for each of you when your journey ends and pray that God blesses you as He did me.

A Celebration of Life Service for Carole Zanton will be held Friday, May 24, 2019 at 11:00 AM at the Rock Church in Centralia with Pastor Steve Upchurch officiating. Burial will follow at Hillcrest Memorial Park in Centralia. Visitation will be held Thursday, May 23, 2019 from 5:00 PM to 9:00 PM at the Rock Church and also Friday, May 24, 2019 from 10:00 AM until the time of service. Memorial donations may be made to the Lupus Foundation of America and will be accepted at the Sutherland-Garnier Funeral Home at 235 North Sycamore Street Centralia, Illinois 62801, (618)532-3523, who is honored to be of service to the Zanton Family. Online condolences may be made to the family by visiting www.sutherlandfuneralhome.com

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 23. 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM (CT)

The Rock Church
515 Airport Road
Centralia, IL 62801
<http://www.therockcentralia.com/>

Visitation

MAY 24. 10:00 AM (CT)

The Rock Church
515 Airport Road
Centralia, IL 62801
<http://www.therockcentralia.com/>

Service

MAY 24. 11:00 AM (CT)

The Rock Church
515 Airport Road
Centralia, IL 62801
<http://www.therockcentralia.com/>

Tribute Wall

KE

“ *Karla Shaw Evans lit a candle in memory of Carole Zanton*



Karla Shaw Evans - May 30, 2019 at 01:41 AM

SB

“ *Sharon Beasley lit a candle in memory of Carole Zanton*



Sharon Beasley - May 27, 2019 at 02:18 PM

GJ

“ *Georgia Jones-Richardson lit a candle in memory of Carole Zanton*



Georgia Jones-Richardson - May 24, 2019 at 10:36 PM

GJ

“ *To the Family,
I am so sorry to hear about Carol passing. She was a great person and would help in any way she could. I appreciate the help she gave my daughter, Brook Meeks. I will never forget her.*

Georgia Jones-Richardson - May 24, 2019 at 10:34 PM



“ *Jacee, we were so shocked to learn of your mother's passing. We only met her that one time at your wedding, but she seemed like a very sweet person, and was so happy to see you happy with Logan on that wonderful day. You are in our prayers always. Love, Aunt Esther and Uncle Ellis*

Ellis-Esther Border - May 24, 2019 at 09:49 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Carole Zanton.*



May 23, 2019 at 08:50 AM

DP

“ My memory is probably different than most. In 2009 I lost my husband to suicide. In 2010 Carole lost a son to suicide (please forgive me if the dates are wrong). Pastor Steve came up to me and asked me to speak to her because she was having a difficult time dealing with it. At that time, I could only point Carole out in a crowd, I did not know her. I introduced myself and she gave me the biggest hug and we cried together. I said I would email later in the day as the sermon was starting. I went home and paced, and pined. I had no idea what to say. I was barely holding it together myself. Who was I to give advice? Finally, I went to the computer and started typing. This is what I typed. "Feel what you feel. Don't let anyone tell you it's time to get over it. Some days are going to be good, some aren't. But don't let other people tell you how you should feel." Then I hit send . Next Sunday I saw her make a bee line for me. She hugged me and said that it was the best advice anyone had ever given her and she would keep it on her phone/computer forever. That's my memory.

Diane Philyaw - May 23, 2019 at 08:49 AM

KE

My memory goes back 35 years we worked together as CNA 's we were very young and had so many fun times Carole made work fun even in not so fun moments lol RIP Carole you touched many lives and made them smile me for sure RIP

Karla Shaw Evans - May 29, 2019 at 05:55 PM

AG

“ I always remember Carole coming through McDonald's. She was one of my favorite customers because she was so polite and she had the prettiest smile. She was truly a blessing especially on days that were rough. She brought a smile to a lot of us, and I truly thank her for that. RIP

Amber Grose - May 23, 2019 at 08:05 AM

LH

“ *Carole was a great joy to be around when I knew her in the 90's. I am sorry to see she left us early, but am touched by her attitude and lovely story she obviously so lovingly wrote to us all. I will have fond memories of some of the times we spent together.*

Larry Hollenberg

Larry Hollenberg - May 23, 2019 at 07:44 AM

AL

“ *You and your family are in our prayers. May God grant you comfort and peace.*

The Barthelemy Family



Alicia - May 23, 2019 at 06:26 AM

DM

“ *So sorry for your loss. You are in our prayers. I know she is running down those streets of gold.*

Donita Morris - May 22, 2019 at 07:46 PM

JF

“ *So very sorry for your loss, You all are in our thoughts & prayers . God Bless.*



Janet Finley-Huffman - May 22, 2019 at 06:44 PM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Carole Zanton.



May 22, 2019 at 04:23 PM



“ Carole and I were friends while in grade school and up until I moved away. We kept in contact through social media . I was going through a season in my life that was really hard . She asked for my number and called me . After all those years she and I could talk forever. Carole was one of a kind . Pure heart and soul would do anything for anybody . I thank God for the friendship we had. Fly high my friend no more pain no more suffering those pearly gates were awaiting you. As God said He needed you more . Love ❤️ you and you'll truly be missed. 😊😊😊😊

jamie delzell horn - May 22, 2019 at 04:09 PM



“ So sorry for your loss of Carole, but your are blessed, as I am, to have had her in our lives. I hope she had a peaceful pass. Happy heaven Carole



Wanda Galayda - May 22, 2019 at 04:04 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Carole Zanton.*



May 22, 2019 at 01:36 PM



“ *Carole was a great gal. We had some good times at Saint Mary,s hospital.Always was a happy person .Her son worked foe me for awhile at the hospital and we had some good talks..I no she is in a better place .But no she loved you all very much.*

Alice Torgler

Alice Torgler - May 22, 2019 at 07:07 AM



“ *Mary Long lit a candle in memory of Carole Zanton*



Mary Long - May 21, 2019 at 09:37 PM



“ *Carole was the most kind hearted woman who loved God and life. She was an awesome friend!!*



Jeff Skibinski - May 21, 2019 at 12:05 PM