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## *E. Karen Albond*

November 11, 2003

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 Cherished Wife, Mother, Grandmother & Community Activist

E. Karen "Kay" Albond was called to be home with God after a long illness, Tuesday, November 11, 2003, at Buffalo General Hospital.

She was born July 6, 1937 in Iowa City, Iowa, the daughter of Marvin and Leta [Gibson] Snyder.

She met her husband in Des Moines, Iowa and after their marriage November 25, 1959 they lived in Hawaii, Australia, Chicago, Minneapolis, and Memphis before moving to Niagara Falls in 1967. A commercial artist by trade, Mrs. Albond was one of the first women in Australia to work commercially. Her art skills would benefit the local area from advertising work for Wakes to creating logos, elaborate decorations and scenery for the United Way of Niagara, Voluntary Action Center, Niagara Falls Little Theater, St. Francis Guild of Mt. St. Mary's Hospital, Beta Sigma Phi, Health Association of Niagara County and the Kidney Foundation of WNY to teaching the skills and her love of art to students at the YMCA, Niagara University and the Niagara County Girl Scouts.

Dedicated to her adopted community, Mrs. Albond served on many boards of directors over the years, including HANCI, where she was a member of the board of directors for years and Vice President of the Kidney Foundation of Western New York and was a founding member of many of them including the Volunteers in Action (VAC) and Friends of the Library. She chaired many special events and was a successful fundraiser. A member of Beta Sigma Phi International Women's Organization since 1957, she served as City Council President in Iowa, Hawaii, Australia (forming the Sydney Council) and Niagara Falls, Xi Omicron Chapter President 1969 and Chaired the 1971 State Convention. Mrs. Albond chaired the fundraising drive for a kidney dialysis machine, the first to be purchased by a group, to help Niagara County residents.

Karen Albond was recognized for her community activism with such awards as one of the first women to receive the Top Hat of the Week, Outstanding Women of Niagara County, Beta Sigma Phi-New York State Girl of the Year and Who's Who Outstanding Young Women of America.

Before her illness, Mrs. Albond also spent time gardening, volunteering, making holiday ornaments and creating architectural renderings for area businesses.

In recent years, Kay enjoyed spending time with her family, especially activities with her granddaughter, including volunteering at special events at the Herschell Carrousel Factory Museum. She was a member of the John J. Welch Post #381, American Legion Auxiliary.

She is survived by her husband, Harvey N., daughter Roxane C. Albond-Buchner, son-in-law Daniel W. Buchner, granddaughter Teresa S. all of Niagara Falls; two sisters Sharon (Douglas) Ziegler of West Bend, WI and Sherril (Edward) Owens of Carlisle, IA, one brother Ronald (Phyllis) Snyder of Fayetteville, NC, also many nieces and nephews.

The family wishes to thank all of the extraordinary people serving in the medical profession who cared for Mrs. Albond the past twenty years.

The family will be present at the RHONEY FUNERAL HOME, Cayuga and South Ninth Streets, Lewiston, NY, from 2-4 & 7-9 PM Friday. Funeral services will be held Saturday at 10:00 AM at the First Presbyterian Church, 505 Cayuga Street, Lewiston, NY, with the Rev. Dr. D. Douglas Gilbert officiating. Interment in Riverdale Cemetery, Lewiston, NY.

Memorials may be made on memory of Karen to HANCI or to The Herschell Carrousel Factory Museum Education Fund.

For directions to the Funeral Home, click the link above.

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