

Oldest Danish Community Newspaper in North America - Since 1872 - Nationwide Circulation - Articles Written in English & Danish

152nd YEAR

“FLATBREADS AND PRAIRIE FLOWERS”

AUGUST 18, 2024

In Memory of Karen Elaine Nielsen of Overland Park, Kansas

Karen Elaine Nielsen died unexpectedly at home in Overland Park, Kansas on July 18, 2024, due to complications from a fall. Karen was born on April 9, 1948 in Kansas City, Mo., the daughter of Elcar and Lillian Nielsen. She grew up in Fairway, Ks., before graduating from Shawnee Mission East High School and attending Kansas State University.

After returning to the Kansas City area, Karen began working as a telephone reservation agent at the Travelodge hotel reservation center. She steadily advanced through the ranks and ultimately

led the office while serving as Vice President of Travelodge. Her work led her to live in London, Phoenix and San Diego.

Later, she returned to Overland Park and succeeded her father as Honorary Danish Consul for Kansas and Missouri, helping Danish citizens and companies with consular matters. As part of her duties, she traveled often to events in Copenhagen, Denmark and at the Danish Embassy in Washington D.C.

Having worked for a hospitality company, it was no surprise that Karen was an avid traveler. She took vacations all over, including

Mexico, France, Alaska, Hawaii and Las Vegas, just to name a few. Karen was a lifelong fan of the Kansas City Chiefs and Royals and attended many games through both the lean years and the championships. She loved watching tennis and tolerated watching golf.

Apart from family and friends, Karen was also most passionate about card games and the Texas Tenors. She was also a devoted cat lover, caring for many pets for decades.

She was preceded in death by her parents. She is survived by her brother James Nielsen, her

nephews David Nielsen and Greg Nielsen, her nieces Melanie Nielsen and Stephanie Nielsen and her great-niece Erika Nielsen. Karen's wishes were to be cremated and have her ashes spread over her parents' graves. This cannot be accomplished but her ashes will be buried with her parents. There will be a private interment.

Donations are welcome in her honor. Rose Brooks Center, Shelter KC, Harvester's, and City Union Mission are a few that Karen supported.

All Honor to Karen Nielsen's Memory!

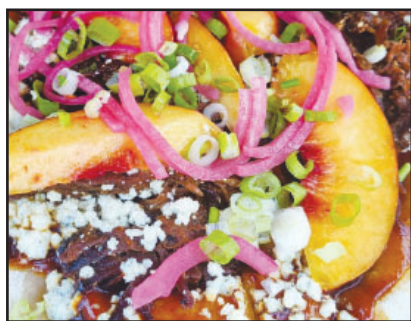


Karen Elaine Nielsen
April 9, 1948 — July 18, 2024

Upcoming Event at the Museum of Danish America in Elk Horn, Iowa ***Flatbreads & Prairie Flowers*** ***Saturday, September 14th from 5 - 7 p.m.***



Meet us at MoDA for farm-to-table flatbreads with locally sourced ingredients, a heaping salad, and homemade s'mores! To find the menu and preorder your meal, visit Milk & Honey's Eventbrite page. Guests are welcome to bring their own seating, beverages, lawn games, etc. Held in collaboration with Brun Ko Farm and Milk & Honey.



**museum of
danish america**

Celebrating Danish roots and American dreams!

2212 Washington Street - Elk Horn, Iowa 51531

Contact us: 1-800-759-9192 or <http://www.danishmuseum.org> or follow us on Facebook

Scandinavian Day Festival in Illinois is September 8th

The 2024 Scandinavian Day Festival is set for 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. on Sunday, September 8, at Vasa Park, 35W217 Route 31, South Elgin, Illinois. Everyone is welcome!

The 44th annual festival features traditional food, crafts and entertainment of the five Nordic cultures. Church Service at 10:30 a.m. and Opening/Welcome Ceremony at 11:10 a.m.

The day offers delicious Scandinavian food, vendor walkway, children's activities, free pony rides, and face painting.

2024 Entertainment includes Libido Funk Circus, Steve Solkela One-Man Band, Norwegian Bachelor Farmers, Nordic Folk Dancers, Leikarringen Heimhug Dancers and Story Time by Elsa.

Donation: \$15 per person; free for kids 12 and younger. Free parking.

For more information, please visit:
<https://www.scandinaviandayil.com/>
and <https://www.vasaparkil.com/>



152nd Anniversary in 2024!

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