



## Audrey Adele Karnicki

March 20, 1943 - March 9, 2020

March 15, 2020

Dear family and friends,

Audrey Karnicki's Memorial Service, scheduled for 11:00 am, Saturday, 3/21/2020 is cancelled. Common sense must prevail as this global viral pandemic continues unpredictably and essentially unabated. But for now, through our tears, we will keep her in our thoughts and memories and keep each other in our prayers. A celebration of Audrey's wonderful lifetime amongst us must be postponed.

Unfortunately, but with God's help, we must now hunker down and take care of our families and take care of each other. And this is precisely what Audrey would insist upon were she still with us.

Sincerely,

Alfred Karnicki, M. D.

Audrey Adele Karnicki, age 76, a long-time resident of Lake Forest, passed away March 9, 2020 surrounded by her family.

Audrey was the heart of the Karnicki home, a place open to everyone, especially to the scores of her children's friends. She quickly earned her title

of, "My Other Mom." Audrey worked as a full time X-ray technician for 37 years at Lake Forest Hospital. She was a caring and compassionate woman who was dedicated to her husband, children, and grandchildren. She loved supporting all of them in school and in their various sporting events and activities. Audrey was an avid gardener and a talented cook who enjoyed poker and bridge. Her empathy and loyalty towards others made her a remarkable wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and friend to many. Audrey will be sorely missed by all who knew her.

Beloved wife of 55 years to Alfred M. Karnick, M.D.; loved mother of Matthew (Kristin) Karnicki, Sharon (Michael) Moccia and Michael Karnicki; fond grandmother of Justine (John) Porter, Lt. Brandon Moccia, U.S. Army, Brittany Moccia and Brett Moccia; cherished great-grandmother of Hayden Porter; special sister of Cynthia (Vincent) Zipparro and Claudia (Mike) Meier and loved aunt to numerous nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be announced at a future date. For information – Reuland & Turnbough Funeral Directors of Lake Forest, 847-234-9649 or [www.RTfunerals.com](http://www.RTfunerals.com).

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in Audrey's name may be made to The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research, P.O. Box 5014, Hagerstown, MD 21741-5014 or [www.michaeljfox.org/donate](http://www.michaeljfox.org/donate).

# Tribute Wall

“ Hey Grandma, sorry I haven't stopped by sooner on here but no one told me this webpage existed. I miss you so much. This year has been so hard. There are so many instances where I wish I could just call you and hear your voice for a little cheering up or motivation to keep pushing on. Regardless of how difficult this year has been and the constant loss I have been feeling through the year, I haven't picked up a drink still! I know you'd be proud of me for that. 3 years strong grandma! Hayden is getting so big. Her 2 year birthday was a few days ago. It was Toy Story themed and she got spoiled rotten... just like you used to spoil us grandkids when we were little. She can point to a picture and pick you out... she says "Audrey" as she points to your face. It makes me so happy. P.S. I blow in her socks before I put each one on so that her toes are nice and toasty... just like you used to do for me when I was little.

Thank you for being my favorite person growing up. Thank you for being my biggest cheerleader. No matter how often or how big I screwed up in life... (which was more often than I would have liked to admit in my 20s) you always supported me. You loved me the same no matter what. At times when my self pity would convince me that I was all alone in the world, I knew you'd always be there for me no matter what. I never second guessed that.

I will always remember the fun times that we had together. Those times and moments that you cherished at talked about up until your last days. Like when we drove to Chicago together in the blizzard and you were "leader of the pack" on the road... making sure that you got us home safe even if it took us a week to get there, speaking gibberish in the car because I liked to pretend that I could speak Spanish even though I didn't even know what "Hola" meant at the time, running really fast up the post office stairs every time we went to check the mail, you letting me slam the tiny door shut to your PO Box because I like the sound it made, there are so many I could spend hours coming up with all the memories I have of me and you together when I was a kid. You truly were my favorite human. I will never forget these memories. I cherish them so much.

*I miss you so much grandma. I hope heaven is beautiful and peaceful because things are kind of chaotic down here on earth right now. I don't think you'd like it very much. Say hi to Bushi and Gramps for me and I hope you will all be waiting for me when it's my time to reunite with you. Until then, I know me and my family have one of the most beautiful gaurdian angels looking down on us every single day.*

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**Justine Porter** - December 22, 2020 at 05:12 PM

SM

“ 3 files added to the album *Tribute Wall 2*



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**Sharon Moccia** - March 24, 2020 at 07:50 PM

SM

“ 3 files added to the album *Tribute Wall 2*



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**Sharon Moccia** - March 24, 2020 at 07:49 PM

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“ 1 file added to the album *Tribute Wall 2*



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**Sharon Moccia** - March 24, 2020 at 07:44 PM

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“ 3 files added to the album *Tribute Wall 2*



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**Sharon Moccia** - March 24, 2020 at 07:30 PM

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“ 1 file added to the album *Tribute Wall 2*



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**Sharon Moccia** - March 24, 2020 at 07:21 PM

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“ 1 file added to the album *Tribute Wall 2*



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**Sharon Moccia** - March 24, 2020 at 07:20 PM

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“ 1 file added to the album *Tribute Wall 2*



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**Sharon Moccia** - March 24, 2020 at 07:20 PM

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“ 1 file added to the album *Tribute Wall 2*



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**Sharon Moccia** - March 24, 2020 at 07:19 PM

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“ 1 file added to the album *Tribute Wall 2*



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**Sharon Moccia** - March 24, 2020 at 07:18 PM

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**Sharon Moccia** - March 24, 2020 at 07:17 PM

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“ 1 file added to the album *Tribute Wall 2*



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**Sharon Moccia** - March 24, 2020 at 07:16 PM

JC

“ *I became friends with Matt when I was 12-13. It was a huge thing in my life as the Karnickis immediately accepted me into their family. So many sleepovers - me at their house, Matt at mine. What stands out to me about Audrey is that she was so different than anything I'd experienced to that point in my life. I knew she liked me immediately but she expected more of me. She wanted to know how I was REALLY feeling, not just BS happy talk. She knew if she had a bad day she didn't need to hide it from me - that was life man, deal with it. That approach to life blew my 12-13 year old mind. It made me trust her. To know her from that age to an adult was wonderful. I'm so sorry for your loss. Our loss.*

*And I like to think how I interact with my kids' friends is formed by my interactions with Audrey. They know when I ask how they're doing I don't need happy talk back. They can tell me what's going on - good, bad or indifferent. I think they appreciate that and I know that approach is thanks to Audrey.*

*Peace to you Audrey. Thanks for bringing me into a family that has brought me so much joy and stability over the years. Love you.*

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**john conway** - March 20, 2020 at 10:03 PM

HA

“ The memory I will never forget is when we were in Antioch at a miniature golf facility and as I swung the club Audrey was behind me and I accidentally hit her in the head  
I felt soooooo bad  
Audrey was a wonderful wife mother grandmother and will be missed by all who knew her❤️❤️❤️ When we lose someone we love all we have are the memories Good and bad  
You are all in my prayers at this difficult time  
Cousin Helen

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Helen Alessandra - March 20, 2020 at 09:36 PM

JM

“ Happy birthday sweet auntie Audrey. Love you and miss you ❤️



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jill mazza - March 20, 2020 at 05:44 PM

SB

“ First happy birthday Mrs Karnacki. There are so many memories to share about you, Doc, your kids and grandkids. We had such good times and many laughs living next door. You made my mother so welcome whenever she came to visit. We so enjoyed all the Busias and Grandpas sharing meals and telling stories. You were the more quiet constant In our lives in Lake Forest. You will be so missed. Doc when you read this know we are thinking of you and the whole family and our sending our love to you from the UP. God bless and keep you all. Hugs and love, Ross, Sue and boys I'm having a drink with you in spirit.

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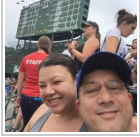
sue bennett - March 20, 2020 at 04:45 PM

LB

“ So many memories of Audrey: it was Christmas Eve at her house when we announced our engagement, Ribfest where we became pals, all the wonderful parties she hosted, pointing out which slot machine we should play, and so many other wonderful fun memories of a great woman!! Audrey was also quick to say " I love you" and we loved her.  
Love, Stan and Linda

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**Linda Baran** - March 20, 2020 at 10:12 AM



“ I cannot help but be overwhelmed with emotion as I sit down to write a few words about what Audrey meant to me. It is an understatement to say that she made me part of the family. From the first time I made the short trek from the dorms of Lake Forest College for Sunday dinner, she opened her home, her heart and her family to me. It would never have occurred to her not to -- that was just who she was. My senior year, it was almost as if she would have been offended if I did not come for dinner on Sunday.

With my family scattered throughout the country, Audrey took it on herself to become my "In loco parentis." In the years that followed my graduation, she always made sure that I wouldn't be alone for the holidays. There was ALWAYS an open seat at their table for me. I cannot begin to express my gratitude for her kindness and to the entire Karnicki clan for making me a part of their family.

I have never met anyone with Audrey's capacity to love and care for those around her. I can honestly say that outside of my own parents, Audrey had a larger impact on my life than any other person. It wasn't always easy to get time alone with Audrey, but early in our relationship Audrey and I struck a bargain. If she made ham, I would give her backrubs.

Audrey made a lot of ham!

Audrey thought she was getting a great deal because I would spend a lot of time working on her, but I was the one who benefited the most. Each of those sessions gave me time with Audrey away from the other 30 people at their house. It was my time to talk to her about love, work, life. At every point in my life, her wisdom helped me navigate my way through all of the good times and all of the bad times.

Audrey will always be in my heart because she was the person who taught me how to use it.

*Peter*



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**Peter Williams** - March 20, 2020 at 01:45 AM

SA

“ *It doesn't feel like it now but one day something will remind you of your Mom and it won't hurt as much as it does now. And then one day you will remember something funny that she said or did and it will comfort you. You will never be whole again but you won't always feel this broken. Love you Matt and Mikey.*

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**Sandi** - March 19, 2020 at 11:43 PM

SW

“ *I will always remember how wonderfully generous Audrey was when it came to feeding us around the Holidays and how welcoming she always was when we came to visit. Especially with Peter when he was at Lake Forest. My thoughts and prayers are with her family. God Bless.*

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**Scott Williams** - March 19, 2020 at 11:02 PM

MK

“ *Tonight is 3/19 and tomorrow will be my MOM's B-day. Happy B-day MOM ! My only good memory right now is how much she disliked my ex. She was 10000% correct and saved me from that. I had to !*

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**Michael Karnicki** - March 19, 2020 at 10:00 PM

MK

“ Mom I love you so much..... I will miss you so much.... You are the best Mom there ever was.....

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**Matthew Karnicki** - March 18, 2020 at 12:04 PM

PJ

“ Al, John and I are in South Africa but I just read the very sad news about Audrey. John and I were just talking about her last night. We will call you later today. We are so sorry about this monumental loss for you and for your family.

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**peggy and John** - March 17, 2020 at 08:21 AM