



Ms. Karen "Kai" Lyle-Obiozor

January 1, 1951 - November 25, 2023

In Loving Memory of Ms. Karen "Kai" Lyle-Obiozor

Ms. Karen "Kai" Lyle-Obiozor, age 72, formerly of Peoria, IL, gracefully departed her earthly home and entered eternal life on Saturday, November 25, 2023, at CAMC General Hospital in Charleston, WV.

She was born on January 1, 1951, in Peoria, Illinois, to the proud parents Luther and AuVerda J. Lyle.

Kai embarked on a beautiful journey of life marked by love, adventure, and a vibrant spirit. In February 1986, she joined hands in matrimony with Ernest Obiozor, and together, they welcomed the blessings of twins Kalyn "Missy" Obiozor-Dorey and Ernest "Bud" Obiozor.

Preceding her into the arms of eternity were her parents, sister Doris "Jean" Taylor, brothers Lee "Sonny" Lyle and Larry Lyle, and her niece Antoinette "Tonni" Gordon. Yet, Kai leaves behind a legacy of love that will forever be cherished by those fortunate enough to have been a part of her life.

Left to embrace and honor her memories are her beloved children, affectionately known as Bud and Missy, and her son-in-law, Kevin J. Dorey. The light of her life, grandchildren Elijah and Emmanuel Dorey, will carry forth the warmth of her love through generations.

Kai is also survived by her sister, Vickie (Rick) Ridge of Peoria, Illinois, and a host of nieces and nephews. Among them are Lynne (Jerome) Costic of Peoria, IL, Stephanie (Nathan) Fulbright of Chicago, IL, Monique, Iva Washum, Donnell Sanders, Chris (Katrina) Ridge, and Rickey (Jerrilyn) Ridge, all from Peoria, IL. Additionally, she also leaves many great nieces, nephews, and cousins who will remember her with fondness.

Kai's early years were spent in Peoria, IL, where she graduated from the Academy of Our Lady in 1969. She further pursued her education, earning a Bachelor of Arts from Illinois

State University in 1973. Her academic journey laid the foundation for a life filled with curiosity and exploration.

A true adventurer at heart, Kai's spirit led her to Italy, where she studied abroad and eventually made the country her home for four enriching years. Her zest for life extended beyond borders, and she embraced the opportunities to experience the world. Among her many travels, San Francisco held a special place in her heart, becoming her favorite home away from home for 30-plus years.

With over 40 years of dedicated service in government and nonprofit development, Kai retired to pursue freelance nonprofit and grant writing consulting. Before retiring, she was the Director of Sponsored Programs for West Virginia State University in Institute, WV.

Kai was a cherished member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, for 50-plus years. Her love for her sorority inspired her to create an online boutique for her Sorors, providing a place to find quality legacy baby gifts. Operating the business for 8 years in the Bay Area, Kai's commitment extended to serving her church and the Bay Area's unhoused community through volunteering at her church's food pantry.

Additionally, Kai shared her passion for interior decor and design by writing blogs on the history of antique items for Design Plus Consignments Gallery in San Francisco, CA.

Ms. Karen "Kai" Lyle-Obiozor will be remembered not only for her academic achievements but also for the love she showed her family, the adventures she embarked upon, and the countless lives she touched with her warm and compassionate spirit. But also for her Fashionable style, big smile, and infectious laugh.

May her soul rest in eternal peace, and may her memories continue to inspire and uplift those who had the privilege of knowing her.

Celebration of Life Brunch will be held on Karen "Kai" Lyle-Obiozor's Birthday, Monday, January 1, 2024, at 11am EST. Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated Ivey Beyond the Wall ceremony will be held at 10 am before the celebration of life brunch. Both will be held at the Women's Club of Charleston, 1600 Virginia St. E Charleston, WV 25311. An additional celebration of life will be held in Peoria, IL, in late spring or early summer 2024. Further information to come.

Callender Funeral Home has been entrusted with arrangements

Tribute Wall

CS

“ *Celise Shockley lit a candle in memory of Karen Lyle-Obiozor*



Celise Shockley - April 02, 2024 at 12:06 AM

CW

“ *Catherine Watson lit a candle in memory of Karen Lyle-Obiozor*



Catherine Randle Watson - January 09, 2024 at 02:42 AM

PC

“ *To the family of Ms. Karen "Kai" Lyle-Obiozor:*

The pastor and members of the Pentecostal Church of Jesus Christ would like to extend to you and your entire family our deepest sympathy in the loss of your loved one. Although our hearts are saddened, we pray that the Lord will comfort you and bless you with endearing memories that you will always treasure. He is with you even in this time of sorrow too deep for words.

God be with you,

*Pastor Henry L. Bolden
Lady Marcia J. Bolden
and the PCJC Church Family*

Pentecostal Church of Jesus Christ - December 23, 2023 at 10:03 AM