



Karen Lynn Layton

January 17, 1947 - March 2, 2026

Karen Lynn Layton, 79, of Moses Lake, Washington, passed away peacefully on March 2, 2026 surrounded by loved ones. She died of complications of an aggressive Lymphoma Cancer. Karen was born on January 17, 1947, in Montpelier, Idaho, to Ingrid and Earl Sorenson. She grew up surrounded by family and carried that love of family throughout her life.

A unique opportunity for her family took her to Denmark during her last 3 years of high school to serve the people over there as her Dad was the Mission President of Denmark for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. She created many memories and cherished her time there.

On June 11, 1973, she married the love of her life, Brian Layton in the Logan Temple. Together they built a life centered around family, faith, and service.

Karen earned her bachelor's degree and devoted her career to education, working as an elementary school teacher for the Moses Lake School District for 18 years. She had a deep love for children and made a lasting impact on many students throughout her teaching career. After many years of service, she retired, leaving behind a legacy of kindness, patience, and dedication.

Karen was a faithful member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Her faith was an important part of her life and guided the way she served and loved others.

Above all else, Karen treasured time with her family—especially her grandchildren. She loved being with them and creating many special memories together. She also enjoyed long car rides with her husband,

exploring new places, and taking photos along the way to capture the moments they shared.

Karen is survived by her loving husband, Brian Layton; her children, Misty Meldrum(Luke), Brent Layton(Diana), Tami Nelson(Scott), and Ty Layton; her brothers, Bob Sorenson(Marcia), Rick Sorenson(Jackie), and Mark Sorenson(Katherine); 10 grandchildren; and 1 great-grandchild.

She was preceded in death by her granddaughter, Ashlynn, her sister, Ingrid; and her parents, Ingrid and Earl Sorenson.

Karen will be remembered for her love of family, her gentle spirit, and the joy she found in life's simple moments. She will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved her.

Funeral services will be held on Saturday, March 21, 11:00am at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 1515 S. Division St, Moses Lake, WA 98837. Open "Friend Visitation" prior to funeral service from 9:45-10:45am. Interment will follow at Guarding Angels Cemetery, 2595 Rd L NE, Moses Lake, WA 98837.

Cemetery Details

Guarding Angels Cemetery

2595 Road L N.E.
Moses Lake, WA 98837
(509) 765-7848

Previous Events

Funeral

MAR 21. 11:00 AM (PT)

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
1515 South Division St.
Moses Lake, WA 98837

Tribute Wall

BJ

“Karen is a beautiful example of someone you could always count on. She was completely dependable and came with a warm smile and a willingness to help in any manner. She quietly served and blessed others.

Barbara Jorgensen - March 18 at 11:17 PM

DH

“Back in the day the teachers at Peninsula Elementary School were largely a fearsome bunch. They ruled with an iron hand and I was hoping for a change in my fourth grade year with a chance to getting into Miss Sorenson's class. I remember being downcast after learning that I had gotten Mrs. Layton whoever that was. Much to my relief Mrs. Layton turned out to be Miss Sorenson who had gotten married that summer. She was every bit as kind and gracious as I had hoped, and I bloomed under her care. I have no way of assessing the influence that she had on me but it was substantial. While I am not LDS, I suspect her faith played a large part in her demeanor. I am sure that she played as big a part in many people's lives as she did mine.
Don Hochstatter



Don Hochstatter - March 08 at 10:57 PM

HM

Brian, I am so sorry for your loss. Hugs...Holly Infanger Moos.

Holly Infanger Moos - March 10 at 10:57 AM

ST

I think we all bloomed somewhat knowing Karen. She was a kind, caring, supportive individual. And will always be remembered as such. I am thankful for our association over the years, professionally, socially, and in the church. She touched many lives.

My condolences to Brian and her family.

Heaven just got a special angel.

Sharon Tolley

Sharon Tolley - March 13 at 06:30 PM

BL

Dear Brian and family,

Mike and I are so sorry about Karen. You have been in our daily prayers since we first heard about her cancer. I cannot imagine what you are going through right now. Karen was an amazing lady—a wife, mother/grandmother, educator, truly a kind person, and a faithful daughter of God. I stand in awe of her courage, strength, and character. May she rest pain free and in peace. And may you find comfort through God's infinite Plan of Happiness. We will continue to pray for your whole family.

Bette Lang - March 21 at 12:14 AM

CF

“*Carol Ganiere and Family lit a candle in memory of Karen Layton*



Carol Ganiere and Family - March 05 at 09:02 PM