



## Karen Elizabeth Mayes

December 11, 1965 - May 27, 2016

Karen Elizabeth Mayes, 50, died Friday, May 27, 2016 in Little Rock of complications following heart surgery.

She was born in Fort Worth Texas December 11, 1965 to Charles and Vera Martin. She grew up with her brothers, Neal and Larry, in Waldron, Arkansas where she enjoyed playing the clarinet and bassoon in the high school band. Her talent led her to perform in the Arkansas Tech University band. While in college she met her husband of 29 years, David Mark Mayes. She earned her Bachelor of Arts degree and has held jobs in administration and communications, most recently at Harding University. She brought smiles to hundreds as a professional clown. She and David have lived in Natchitoches, Louisiana; Chickasha, Oklahoma; and Conway and Searcy, Arkansas.

As a caring wife and mother, she enjoyed knitting and cheering for her sons at sports events. As a teen she became a Christian and rejoiced to see her parents and brothers become followers also. She was an active member of the Cloverdale Church of Christ. Karen was a dedicated parent and served with the Chickasha Festival of Light.

She is survived by her husband David and sons, Jared and Justin; her granddaughter, Ava Jane; her mother, Vera and brothers Neal and Larry Martin; her

in-laws, David and Carole Mayes, Laura Mayes and Mike Hutchinson, Gail and Steve Sexson; a host of nieces and nephews; and her loved pets Manny, Garfield, and Buggy.

Her life will be remembered and celebrated at her funeral to be held at the Cloverdale Church of Christ (3000 E. Park, Searcy) on May 31, at 11:00 a.m.

Visitation will be Monday 6:00-8:00 p.m. at the Powell Funeral Home (2602 W Beebe Capps Expy, Searcy). Flowers welcome or memorial gifts to the Cloverdale Church of Christ Kerusso Scholarship.

A special 'thank you' to all who have shared in the family's love for Karen.

# Cemetery Details

## Blassingame Cemetery

County Road 16  
El Paso, AR

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**MAY 30.** 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Powell Funeral Home & Cremation Services (Searcy)  
2602 W. Beebe-Capps Expy  
Searcy, AR 72143  
(501) 268-7220  
[searcy@powellfuneralhome.net](mailto:searcy@powellfuneralhome.net)  
<https://www.powellfuneralhome.net/>

## Funeral Service

**MAY 31.** 11:00 AM (CT)

Cloverdale Church of Christ  
3000 East Park Avenue  
Searcy, AR 72143

# Tribute Wall

PH

“ *Powell Funeral Home & Cremation Services created a Tribute Video in memory of Karen Elizabeth Mayes*



---

**Powell Funeral Home** - May 30, 2016 at 02:36 PM

PB

“ *David and Family,*

*I am so sorry your dear, sweet Karen passed away. I will keep you in my prayers.*

*Pam Burke*



---

**Pam Burke** - June 06, 2016 at 01:45 PM

JA

“ *David and Family,*

*Please accept my deepest sympathy in your loss. I have thought of you in these past days and will continue to keep you in my thoughts and prayers.*

*Sincerely,*

*Jan Austin*

---

**Jan Austin** - June 02, 2016 at 03:18 PM

NM

“ I wrote you a poem little sister: It is stylized as Japanese Haiku and follows traditional form, if not proper "kireji."

*"Life"*

*Hearts seek full season.  
Hope is beyond our todays--  
Living loss of Spring.*

*David, Jared and Justin. I will miss my baby sister. More growth in my life is achievable as a result of her little nudges in the right directions. Each of you and your families are always going to be in my daily thoughts and prayers. Because of her, I am known in a kingdom of forever. Amen.*

---

**Neal Martin** - June 02, 2016 at 12:41 PM

RR

“ David,

*While I didn't know Karen, I am saddened to see that she died so young. My sympathies to you and your family during this difficult time.*

*Ron Russ*

---

**Ron Russ** - June 01, 2016 at 08:28 AM

FH

“ Dear Jarred,

*I am sorry that you and your family have to bear such pain at this time in your life.*

*It doesn't matter what age you are,losing a parent is difficult.*

*Hugs,*

*Fran Hatfield*

*Leominster Church of Christ.*

---

**Fran Hatfield** - June 01, 2016 at 07:03 AM



“ *I found out about Karen being called home while on vacation. I am so saddened to know that we will not see her again here on earth, but we rejoice that we will see her again when we are called home. I had just reconnected with my cousin again after many years. There are so many words to try to describe her, but her smile and love of life, family and God paints a picture of what kind of person she was. She leaves behind her husband, two sons, a daughter-in-law and a new grandbaby. She will be missed by many people whether you knew her a long time or had just met her. She was a blessing to all she met. I wish we had been able to see more of each other but I am so thankful for the time we had. We are praying for comfort and strength for her family and friends.*

*Love,*

*Tim & Gayla (Moore) Robbins*

*Dallas, TX*

---

**Gayla Robbins** - May 31, 2016 at 02:10 PM

DU

“ *Debbie Ulsperger lit a candle in memory of Karen Elizabeth Mayes*



---

**Debbie Ulsperger** - May 31, 2016 at 12:19 PM

JC

“ *David,*

*My deepest sympathy to you and your family for your loss. I know you will miss Karen greatly. My thoughts will be with you in the coming days.*

*Jerry Carlisle*

---

**Jerry Carlisle** - May 31, 2016 at 09:28 AM

HS

“ *David & family,*

*I am so sorry for your loss. You are all in my thoughts and prayers.*

*God bless,  
Heather Stogner*

---

**Heather Stogner** - May 31, 2016 at 09:07 AM

TM

“ *David, Jared, and Justin, we are deeply saddened with the loss of Karen. You all will be in our thoughts and prayers. May the memories and love you have of Karen be a comfort in the coming days. Love Jason and Tisha Marzewski.*

---

**Tisha L Marzewski** - May 31, 2016 at 08:49 AM

CC

“ *Cathy Crymes lit a candle in memory of Karen Elizabeth Mayes*



Cathy Crymes - May 31, 2016 at 08:38 AM

CJ

“ *Cathy Jackson lit a candle in memory of Karen Elizabeth Mayes*



cathy jackson - May 31, 2016 at 08:31 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Karen Elizabeth Mayes.*



May 30, 2016 at 09:00 PM

ST

“ *David and family, I am so sorry for your loss. I'm praying God's peace and comfort to be with you today and in the days ahead. God bless,  
Shelly Tapp*

Shelly Tapp - May 30, 2016 at 08:53 PM

LY

“ David and family, my heart was saddened when I heard of Karen's passing. I pray for you all to receive the comfort and strength that only God can provide, and receive the love and sympathy of your friends and coworkers.

*In the love of Christ,  
Linda Yelder*

---

**Linda Yelder** - May 30, 2016 at 06:23 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Karen Elizabeth Mayes.



---

May 30, 2016 at 02:36 PM

SC

“ Saudia Curtis lit a candle in memory of Karen Elizabeth Mayes



---

**Saudia Curtis** - May 30, 2016 at 12:26 PM



“ Secret Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Karen Elizabeth Mayes.



---

May 30, 2016 at 10:04 AM

CD

“ David, I'm very sorry to hear about this. Karen was very sweet and had a beautiful smile. I recall the ATU days fondly. I will lift you and your family up in prayers.

Clint Daniels - May 30, 2016 at 09:21 AM

PJ

“ Pamela Jones lit a candle in memory of Karen Elizabeth Mayes



Pamela Jones - May 30, 2016 at 09:04 AM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Karen Elizabeth Mayes.



May 29, 2016 at 11:13 PM

RF

“ Roger & Nancy McLain & Family purchased the Pink Potpourri Bouquet for the family of Karen Elizabeth Mayes.



Roger & Nancy McLain & Family - May 29, 2016 at 09:28 PM

TS

“ *Tonia Spradlin lit a candle in memory of Karen Elizabeth Mayes*



---

**Tonia Spradlin** - May 29, 2016 at 04:34 PM

CB

“ *Dear David, I remember Karen as a wonderful young lady who always had a smile and kind words for everyone she met. She was delightful, and inspired Charlie to become a clown after he retired from the Nuclear Plant. Please remember that you are covered in prayer and that our Precious Shepherd is so very near.*  
*Love, Caroline Davis Bonn*

---

**Caroline Davis Bonn** - May 29, 2016 at 04:26 PM

GK

*Karen was such a delightful person! She gave up her lunch time to come to school to help me and assist students in Justin's class. She was indeed a special person! I am so sorry. Many blessings on your family and may the Lord sit in your hearts and comfort you. Sincerely, Glenda Kelley, Justin's 3rd grade teacher*

---

**Glenda Kelley** - June 03, 2016 at 05:17 PM

WC

“ *With deepest sympathy, The Lions Club purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Karen Elizabeth Mayes.*



---

**With deepest sympathy, The Lions Club** - May 29, 2016 at 04:09 PM

DH

“ David, I know you must still be in shock. I'm so very sorry for your loss. Karen was always so sweet and I just loved running into her at Harding in later years. You and the boys are in my thoughts and prayers. I'll always remember how cute you were together back at ATU (and everywhere else.) My heart just hurts for you.

Donna Helms - May 29, 2016 at 02:27 PM

AB

“ Addie Banks lit a candle in memory of Karen Elizabeth Mayes



Addie Banks - May 29, 2016 at 01:50 PM

AB

David, I am so sorry for your loss. You and your family are in my prayers.

Addie Banks - May 29, 2016 at 01:51 PM

ZS

“ Brittany and me are very sorry about your loss. Sending prayers to you and your families.

Zachary Singleton - May 29, 2016 at 12:12 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Karen Elizabeth Mayes.



May 29, 2016 at 10:09 AM

DB

“ Thinking and praying for you all during this time of loss. David and Judy Box

David and Judy Box - May 29, 2016 at 07:02 AM

TB

“ I just can't seem to find the words to express all the feelings I am having at this time. First sadness at the loss of a wonderful friend. Second would be joy for I know she was a woman of God and is safe in her Fathers arms tonight. Blessed for having known her and being able to make some great memories that can never be lost nor forgotten. Tearful for her family, they will experience great sadness in days to come. Prayerful for their comfort and peace that only God can provide for them. Thankful that they have a church family and many friends to encourage them and give them strength. Yet with all this being said my heart is broken. She was a wonderful lady and the world will miss her sunshine. She had a way of making everyone's day a little brighter. RIP my dear friend. Until we meet again.

Teri Brothers - May 28, 2016 at 11:59 PM



“ Gift of Grace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Karen Elizabeth Mayes.



May 28, 2016 at 10:05 PM

BS

“ Karen was a beautiful and sweet young lady that I had the great pleasure of knowing when she attended church at the Waldron Church of Christ. She always had a smile on her face and you could just tell that she truly cared about everyone in her life. I can remember several families including ours who made sure she had a way to church since her family didn't attend and she lived a ways out of town. Have only seen her a few times since she moved away, but, she hadn't changed a bit. Would like offer my condolences to her family in there loss, but, and I hope they are comforted in their time of sorrow knowing heaven just gained a beautiful angel.

---

**Bryan Stamps** - May 28, 2016 at 10:00 PM

LW

“ Karen was a wonderful friend and classmate. She will be missed greatly. Your family is in my prayers.

---


**Lisa Burnett Wood** - May 28, 2016 at 07:54 PM

LM

“ Karen was my best friend for many years! We spent alot of time talking and giggling on the phone!" I regret that we didnt stay closer in our adult years but we all seem to take different paths after graduation. I will never forget her infectious smile and that laugh! I will always remember her!

---

**Lisa (Self) McEntire** - May 28, 2016 at 07:50 PM

 Kelly  
Murdock-  
Billy

“ Karen has been my friend for 43 years. I loved her dearly and I wish we could have spent more time together as adults. Her smile and her kindnesses are what touched me back in second grade and what I remembered in the years we were apart. It's just a small part of what she gave to those around her. My prayers are with her family.

---

**Kelly Murdock-Billy** - May 28, 2016 at 06:24 PM

 JS

“ David and family, I am so sorry for your lose. Karen was a dear friend going all the way back to 2nd grade. She will be greatly missed. Your family is in our prayers.

---

**Janet Shaddon** - May 28, 2016 at 06:17 PM