



## Carlene K. Olsen-Garza

September 13, 1957 - October 6, 2014

### Obituary for Carlene' Kaye Olsen-Garza

Carlene was born in Billings, Montana on September 13, 1957. She took great pride in having been born on a Friday the 13th. Her parents were Carl Lambert Olsen of Belfry, Montana and her mother, Dorothy A. Cammock of Joliet, Montana. She is the second of two children, with an older brother Terry L Olsen. She is preceded in death by her mother, Dorothy; her aunt Selma and grandparents.

As a child, Carlene' lived in Worden and Ballantine, Montana, but called Laurel home. She attended elementary schools in each of these towns, but completed her primary and secondary education in Laurel where she graduated from Laurel High School in 1976.

Carlene' was married to Robert David Paul on July 3, 1976 in Billings, Montana. Carlene' and Robert lived in Laurel and celebrated the birth of their first born, Nicholas Brandon Paul in July, 1978. They moved to Bothell, Washington and added to their family with the births of Lyndsey Carl Paul in August 1981 and Anna Arlene' Paul in December 1987.

Carlene' remarried in March 2000 to Joseph Anthony (Tony) Garza and lived in Puyallup, Washington until her passing. Carlene' and Tony did not have children, but enjoyed the blending of their families with the addition of his daughter Lauren N. Hosford. Carlene' is survived by her father Lambert; her husband, Joseph Anthony; her children Nicholas, Lyndsey and Anna; six grand-children, Kayley, Keegan, Issac and Roman Paul; and Connor Rataczyk-Hosford and Liam Hosford; her brother Terry and her beloved standard poodles Sophie and Fynn.

She loved the outdoors, especially the mountains, lakes and valleys of her beloved Montana; had a fascination with the ocean, but a fear of being swept away by the surf thanks to a prank by her brother on their first visit to the ocean. She enjoyed all genera's of music, but fancied herself a late blooming hippie of sorts and found great joy in the folk and rock music of the sixties and seventies. She loved to laugh at a good joke (even if off

color a bit) baking, tending to her gardens and yard, dancing, singings, and take road trips, especially to her Montana. She believed in extending a hand to strangers, striking up a conversation with people she's met along the way; loved anyone who showed her kindness and sympathy to those who didn't and she loved all the animals that crossed her path during her life.

Her family wants to thanks the staff at the Seattle Cancer Care Alliance (SCCA) and UW Medical Center who treated and cared for her during her long battle with cancer, especially the nurses and technicians in the imaging and infusion departments at SCCA. We also want to thank all of her friends for their support and Franciscan Hospice for their wonderful care. We will miss her greatly!

A memorial service and Celebration of Life will be held at 10:00 am, Thursday, November 6th at Mt. View Memorial Park in Lakewood, WA. Remembrances may be shared at [mountainviewtacoma1.reachlocal.net](http://mountainviewtacoma1.reachlocal.net). In lieu of flowers please consider a donation to Carlene's favorite charity at <http://www.chimpsanctuaryNW.org>.



# Comments

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“ Another year has come and gone and I still ask myself why did this happen to you. It is not what we had planned for our lives, but it is the reality I face today. I miss you baby-cakes and you will always hold a special place in my heart and will forever be engrained in my memories as you touched my soul as I gazed into the eyes of an angel that day so long ago.

**Joseph Garza** - January 01, 2016 at 02:40 PM

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“ It's been over year since you left to be with the angels and our second Thanksgiving without your smiling face and witty personality to liven up the house filled with family. The house is quiet now and except for the occasional visitor, that is the way it has been since that awful day in October of 2014. Our dogs are pretty much the only bright spot in my life and I've got to tell you that it hasn't been easy. You are so missed and you will always hold a special place in our hearts and we shall never forget or let you be forgotten as long as there is breath in us. Hold a spot for us my love.



**Joseph Garza** - November 26, 2015 at 01:02 PM

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“ March 31, 2015

On this date fifteen years ago, Carlene K Olsen-Paul and I exchanged vows to have and to hold from this day forward, for better or for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish; from this day forward until death do us part. Little did we know that the latter would come much too soon.

She captured my heart with the first look into her eyes and from that moment I knew that I was peering into the soul of the woman who would become the love of my life. The Lord gave us almost 20years together, 14 and one-half of those as husband and wife. They weren't all easy, but I would give anything to have even the worst day back again just to hold her in my arms once again.

Although death has temporarily separated us Carlene, you are my soul mate and I know that when my maker calls me home, you will be waiting to welcome me and we will once again be reunited, but this time for eternity. Till then, "Have I told you how much I love you lately, to the moon and back again my angel.

Joseph Garza - March 31, 2015 at 10:00 AM

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“ A not so happy birthday to me today It can never be the same now that you are gone. Missing you more than ever.

Joseph Garza - March 16, 2015 at 09:58 PM

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“ It's the first of March and I don't mind telling you that I am little concerned. This month held a lot of significance to us and I don't look forward to that special day anymore. I hope I make it without a major melt down like what happened Valentine Day weekend. Eternally yours.

Joseph Garza - March 01, 2015 at 10:49 AM

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“ Valentine's Day has come and gone and I spent it reminiscing about days past. You captured my heart when our eyes first locked and it will be yours forever. Till we see each other again my love.

Joseph Garza - February 16, 2015 at 08:16 PM

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“ 1 file added to the album Carlene



**Lyndsey** - February 01, 2015 at 11:26 PM



“ We miss you and love you very much.

**Joseph** - February 09, 2015 at 11:02 PM

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“ Joseph Garza lit a candle in memory of Carlene K. Olsen-Garza



**Joseph Garza** - January 23, 2015 at 09:00 PM



“ Missing you as much as ever.

**Joseph** - January 23, 2015 at 09:01 PM



“ me too.. miss you mom.

**Lyndsey** - February 01, 2015 at 11:24 PM

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“ Joseph Garza lit a candle in memory of Carlene K. Olsen-Garza



**Joseph Garza** - December 31, 2014 at 07:56 PM



“ It's New Year's Eve and the one I wished to have welcomed 2015 with is no longer with us.  
I miss you so much my love.

**Joseph** - December 31, 2014 at 07:58 PM

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“ Our first Christmas apart and not much to celebrate. My heart aches as if I were reliving your passing all over again. Mere words can't express how much I miss you. You will always be a part of my very being and I will love you forever.



**Joseph Garza** - December 26, 2014 at 06:18 PM

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“ Tony Garza lit a candle in memory of Carlene K. Olsen-Garza



**Tony Garza** - December 13, 2014 at 01:33 AM



“ I miss you and will love you forever.

**Tony Garza** - December 13, 2014 at 01:34 AM



“ I miss you.

**Tony Garza** - December 13, 2014 at 11:09 AM



“ Missing you.

**Tony Garza** - December 14, 2014 at 12:11 PM

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“ Tony Garza lit a candle in memory of Carlene K. Olsen-Garza



**Tony Garza** - November 27, 2014 at 10:30 AM



“ Our first Thanksgiving apart and I miss you terribly. My heart is breaking.

**Tony Garza** - November 27, 2014 at 10:31 AM

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“ What a sweet thing he did, have her old boots become part of sweet Jaime (the chimpanzee)'s life. Rest in Peace Carlene



**Saunie Holloway** - November 19, 2014 at 08:13 PM



“ Thanks Jaime for taking mom's boots, she would have smiled knowing you have them now.

**Lyndsey** - February 01, 2015 at 11:25 PM

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“ Tony Garza lit a candle in memory of Carlene K. Olsen-Garza



**Tony Garza** - November 18, 2014 at 03:20 PM

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“ Nancy Jordan lit a candle in memory of Carlene K. Olsen-Garza



**Nancy Jordan** - November 02, 2014 at 11:59 AM

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“ My aunt Carlene was compassionate, inventive, and caring. I remember always looking forward to going to her house and she was so welcoming. She did the things that needed to be done, like buy us underwear for Christmas. ;) Always cooking awesome delicious stuff for us to eat like "shit on a shingle". I can still hear "the loudest whistle ever" throughout the whole neighborhood, to come home at night when we were all out to play. Miss you auntie!

Amber Olsen - October 24, 2014 at 01:51 PM

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“ Carlene was the best Mom. She was the most beautiful and loving woman. She accepted people into the family with out a second thought. Her smile and laughter was contagious. I'll never forget all the on going jokes we shared and how hard she tried to keep a smile on her face even until the end.  
Thank you for all the life lessons and for loving me even when I was the biggest pain in the butt (and for never really selling us off for a taco when we misbehaved).  
Thank you for sharing your love with us.  
I love you and miss you an incredible amount Mom.

Until we see each other again, thank you for being our guardian angel.



Anna - October 21, 2014 at 03:44 PM

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“ 3 files added to the album Carlene



Anna - October 21, 2014 at 03:20 PM

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“ Carlene was my sister-in-law and though we never had the opportunity to spend tons of time together I will always remember her for her laugh and sense of humor, her smile, and her willingness to see the good in everything and everyone. She had a huge heart and my kids loved to climb all over their Auntie Carlene when she did come to visit us. She will be remembered fondly for all the love and kindness that she spread around her.

Jessica Heller

Jessica Heller - October 13, 2014 at 04:04 PM

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“ Carlene had a wonderful sense of humor! She was more like a fun-loving aunt to me!!! You could call her anytime! I will never forget her surprise visit when our oldest was born!!! (We thought we got her good by calling her in the middle of the night- only she got us better with her surprise visit!!!) She was so easy to talk to and could relate to you on every level!!! I will forever miss her! Love you so much!!! Jenny Krieger

Jenny Krieger - October 12, 2014 at 10:03 PM

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“ Teri lit a candle in memory of Carlene K. Olsen-Garza



Teri - October 11, 2014 at 07:34 PM

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“ Carlene was a beautiful woman, a wonderful aunt to her 3 nieces, and a loving sister to her brother Terry. I feel so blessed to have been a part of her family and to have shared so many happy occasions. I will miss you Carlene.



**Teri** - October 11, 2014 at 01:26 PM