



Jane Karr (Neubauer) Wertz-Threinen

August 16, 1934 - October 12, 2023

Jane Karr (Neubauer) Wertz-Threinen, 89, of Beloit passed away Thursday, October 12, 2023. Born August 16, 1934, in Chicago, the daughter of Kenneth LeRoy and Catharine (Carpenter) Karr. Jane earned her Bachelor of Arts Degree from Beloit College in 1956. Jane married Edwin P Neubauer on August 10, 1956. She later married Charles W. Wertz on June 21, 1980; he preceded her in death on April 2, 1996. On June 5, 1998, Jane married David T. Threinen; he preceded her in death on August 20, 2013.

During her career, Jane worked for WREX-TV, Rockford, IL where she hosted the day time interview program, Tete-a-Tete. She also reported the Sunday night weather, and did freelance advertising. After WREX-TV she went on to work for Swedish American Hospital, Rockford, IL in Public Relations as well as the Beloit Cable Television station, Beloit, WI. After leaving the area Jane moved to the San Jose, CA area and joined the KSTS-TV staff as Program Manager. Her last working years were spent at San Jose State University as Assistant Professor of Advertising where she taught broadcast advertising. After retirement Jane continued to live a very full life. She enjoyed traveling with family and friends, volunteering for Beloit College, and taking every opportunity available to spend time with those she loved.

Jane is survived by her children, Kathryn (Peter) Neubauer Landon and Kenneth P. (Melodee) Neubauer and their father, Edwin P. Neubauer; grandchildren, Paul Neubauer, Anna Neubauer, Nick Neubauer, Katelyn Landon and Kristyn Landon; step-children, Jeffrey Wertz, Elizabeth (Lloyd)

Wertz Cardone, Julie (Karen Fullerton) Wertz, Michael (Andy Cowitt) Wertz, Timothy (Julie) Wertz, Peter Threinen and Stephen (Susan) Threinen. Also preceded in death by her parents, son, Keith "Chip" Neubauer on July 9, 1981 and brother, James D. Karr.

A memorial service for Jane will take place on Tuesday November 21, 2023 at 11:00am in Eaton Chapel on the Beloit College campus. A reception to follow in the courtyard of the Wright Museum of Art, Beloit College campus. In lieu of flowers, the family would appreciate donations to the Dementia Society of America or Agrace Hospice.

Previous Events

Memorial Services

NOV **21**. 11:00 AM.

Eaton Chapel at Beloit College

Tribute Wall

MS

“ Jane Wertz... WOW, what a loss. I celebrate your life Jane. What a great woman, a great smile and warm eyes. You plucked me from your class, Advertising Campaigns, after I gave my TV commercial presentation. "The Mustard Seed, Ladies Fashion Sportswear Boutique. Put some spice in your life and flavor in your fashion at The Mustard Seed"... you asked if I did the art in my story board presentation. "Yes, I did" in reply.

The first person in my life to compliment me suggesting I had talent. You asked if I found an internship yet, and I answered "what's an Intership"? I love you little lady!

I felt like I had the run of KSTS. Skip may still be mad at me for zooming in on a 'nose pimple' he had, but the production room had a great laugh. I learned so much from you... and I Thank You so much! I was successful in advertising sales for more than 20 years with all that knowledge in my head; then a whole new digital world showed up. I have remembered you all along the way, and wish I kept in touch with you.

I write this behind tears remembering a conversation we had. You mentioned once that I reminded you of your son; a son you lost to hang-gliding. Whew, that was a heavy moment to share. Now, at 66 and semi retired, I hope some day to see you again, in Heaven, with thousands of others you touched with that HUGE heart. Jesus must be happy with you. I figure you're running his advertising campaigns, because a spiritual awakening is moving across the planet. You Go Girl!!

Michael Kinder 1985 SJSU - April 20 at 01:46 PM

NT

“ I am so sorry to hear of Professor Wertz's passing. I wish I had kept in touch with her after graduation. She was a wonderful professor at SJSU and inspired me to a career in advertising. She believed in me which was the best gift you can give to someone. I thought about her today when someone asked me who has inspired me. So I thought I would google her and see if I could connect somehow in social media. It saddens me to hear that she's gone and I wouldn't be able to get a chance to thank her. But her memory will live on in me. Thank you Professor Wertz, you changed the trajectory of my life.

Nancy Tso - January 13 at 03:15 PM



“ To Jane's Family - Like so many others, my memories of Jane are very fond. We met at KSTS where we worked furiously to get that new TV station on the air. Long, weird, tiring hours, but THE most fun. It was a privilege to know her and to share our love of teaching, TV & WI (I am now back near my hometown of Milwaukee). Will never forget that smile and twinkle in her eye. Ellen Persa

Ellen Persa - August 05, 2025 at 02:49 PM

SY

“ Professor Jane Wertz changed my life. She opened doors for me and is the person who helped me launch my career. I will forever be grateful for her mentorship and passion for making the JMC program at SJSU what it was. Jane was a powerful light--and I will never forget her encouragement and smile! Thank you, Jane. I will never forget you.

Sylvia Bonilla, SJSU Class of 1995

Sylvia - March 06, 2025 at 12:10 AM



“ Jane was wonderful as my professor at SJSU, and got me started in a lifelong media career, beginning at KSTS 48. We stayed in touch through the 90's and regrettably lost touch. My condolences.

Russ Havens - December 01, 2024 at 02:15 PM



“ Jane was instantly like able and a real treasure at KSTS-TV48, SanJose!

John Rohrbach - November 24, 2024 at 09:04 PM

TD

“ Hello, Kathy and Ken: I had the great pleasure and privilege of meeting and being a close friend of your Mom since 1975. We first met when I was a Beloit College student working at Beloit Cable TV. (I sort of "knew her" earlier, since she was a presence on TV in my home in Edgerton, doing her weather reports for WREX-TV, Channel 13 in Rockford! My Mom worshipped her, thought she was the best TV personality ever...and I came to agree with that assessment!!) I was one of your Mom's biggest fans and admirers, for sure! Since we were both Beloit College alumni, we often saw each other at many subsequent College events, and kept in touch. The last time I saw her was at Riverside, about 5 years ago (?). I had been warned that her memory had somewhat diminished, But when I walked in to her apartment there, she jumped up from her chair with that irrepressible smile and without a second hesitation exclaimed "Oh, Tommy, so nice to see you again, so nice of you to come by!" She immediately knew who I was...and we enjoyed another half hour or so together catching up! I will always remember her for her friendship, for her always positive outlook on life (in spite of having suffered many terrible losses in her life, many devastating setbacks...you know what I mean...) and her wonderful smile and enthusiasm for life! She was unique, special, extraordinary in so many ways. I send you my deepest sympathies and condolences. You (and I) will always have wonderful memories of Jane! I will miss her deeply, as I'm sure you will as well. Sincerely,

Tom Dickinson
Beloit College Class of 1973
Warrenton, Virginia

Tom Dickinson - November 01, 2023 at 10:26 AM

MM

“ I loved Jane. She was my hero and mentor but most of all a kind and caring friend. I'll treasure our friendship always. My sincere condolences to her children, she loved you deeply.

Michele McAfee - October 28, 2023 at 02:01 PM

HM

“ My condolences to her family. She was a wonderful person and I'm very glad I had the chance to know her.

I worked with her at the Beloit Cable station where she hosted a show called "What's New with Jane Neubauer". I was newly graduated from Beloit College. Boy, did I learn a lot from her about professional behavior in the workplace!

I worked in TV and radio for about 20 years and used what she taught me everyday. I still use those lessons in my second chosen field of work.

I remain eternally grateful to her for her willingness to share her experience and expertise with a "newbie".

Again, my heartfelt condolences. The world lost a beautiful person. She lives on in my heart.

Heath Miller - October 21, 2023 at 10:53 AM

M'

“ Jane went to Glenbard West High School in Glen Ellyn, IL, where my grandfather, Fred Biester was Principal. She always joked that they would go into his office and tell him, “Happy Easter Mr. Biester!” (My dad was also a '41 grad of Beloit. I was '71)

Mary Biester Beloit College '71 - October 20, 2023 at 02:08 PM

HM

“ My condolences to Jane's family. She was a wonderful woman and I'm very glad I had the chance to know her!

I worked with her at the Beloit Cable station where she hosted "What's New with Jane Neubauer". As a young, freshly graduated student of Beloit College, I learned so much from her! She helped me shape my professional behaviors.

I worked in the TV and radio business for the next 20 years or so. I have transitioned into another field where I still find her advice helpful! I will remain eternally grateful to her for her caring and willingness to help a "newbie".

Again, my condolences to her family. They, and Jane, remain in my prayers.

Heath Miller - October 20, 2023 at 10:11 AM

KM

“ To the family of Jane.. our condolences..Many goods memories of all the swimming n camping times together ..hold the memories close to your heart..The Mikkelsen Families

Kurt Mikkelsen - October 19, 2023 at 08:29 PM

TB

“ Growing up young I remember Chip and myself going up North in Wisconsin camping and Jane sending us away with enough food to last a month. We were only going for the weekend. She treated all of us as if we were her own.

Tim Bailey - October 19, 2023 at 01:46 PM