

*A Burial service according to the
Book of Common Prayer
Saturday, August 9th, 2025
11:00 o'clock*



*Trinity Episcopal Church, Norborne Parish,
Martinsburg - Founded 1771
200 West King Street, Martinsburg,
West Virginia 25401
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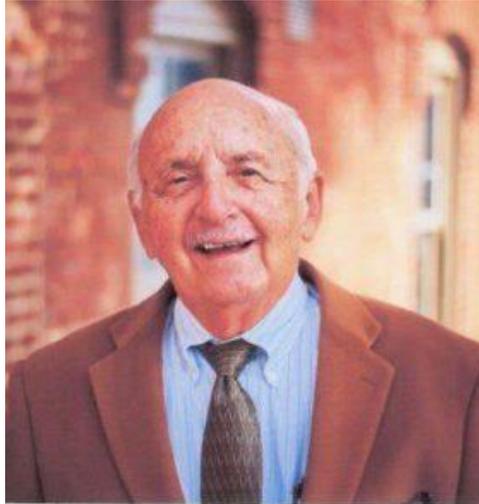
Website: www.trinitymartinsburg.org

Facebook: Trinity Church Martinsburg

Wi-Fi: Trinity Guest-PW-Amen2020

*The Very Rev. Robert E. Shives, II-Rector
The Rev. Deacon Nicole Taggart
Coty Graff-Organist and Choirmaster
Lisa Miller, Parish/Financial Administrator, Notary Public*

*A Burial Service for George Karos
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Welcome to Trinity Episcopal Church

Announcements

- Please silence all digital devices as you enter the Church.
- Rest rooms are in the basement and beyond the doors at the end of the sanctuary.
- Handicapped accessibility is through the College Street entrance. A church member will assist with the elevator.
- The family thanks you for your presence at this service, and for your support in the coming months.

The liturgy for the dead is an Easter liturgy. It finds all its meaning in the resurrection. Because Jesus was raised from the dead, we too, shall be raised.

The liturgy, therefore, is characterized by joy, in the certainty that “neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

This joy, however, does not make human grief unchristian. The very love we have for each other in Christ brings deep sorrow when we are parted by death. Jesus himself wept at the grave of his friend. So, while we rejoice that the one, we love has entered into the nearer presence of our Lord, we sorrow in sympathy with those who mourn.

*A Celebration of the
Resurrection And Thanksgiving
for the life of
George Karos*

September 10th, 1931-June 1st, 2025

We Gather together in God's Name

Opening Hymn: H 207 "Jesus Christ Is Risen Today"

Descant

1 Je - sus Christ is risen to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 But the pains which he en-dured, Al - le - lu - ia!
 4 Sing we to our God a - bove Al - le - lu - ia!

our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 un - to Christ, our heaven - ly King, Al - le - lu - ia!
 our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!
 praise e - ter - nal as his love; Al - le - lu - ia!

who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!
 who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
 now a - bove the sky he's King, Al - le - lu - ia!
 praise him, all ye heaven - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!

suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!
 sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
 where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

I AM RESURRECTION

(BCP p. 491)

All stand

Celebrant:

I am Resurrection and I am Life, says the Lord. Whoever has faith in me shall have life, even though he die. And everyone who has life, and has committed himself to me in faith, shall not die for ever. As for me, I know that my Redeemer lives and that at the last he will stand upon the earth. After my awaking, he will raise me up; and in my body I shall see God. I myself shall see, and my eyes behold him who is my friend and not a stranger. For none of us has life in himself, and none becomes his own master when he dies. For if we have life, we are alive in the Lord, and if we die, we die in the Lord. So, then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's possession. Happy from now on are those who die in the Lord! So it is, says the Spirit, for they rest from their labors.

BURIAL COLLECT (BCP p. 493)

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, who by the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light: Grant that your servant Irene, being raised with him, may know the strength of his presence, and rejoice in his eternal glory, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. ***Amen.***

Most merciful God, whose wisdom is beyond our understanding: Deal graciously with ***Irene's*** family and friends in their grief. Surround them with your love, that they may not be overwhelmed by their loss, but have confidence in your goodness, and strength to meet the days to come, through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

The people sit.

We Hear the Work of God

OLD TESTAMENT READING (BCP p. 494)

Wisdom 3:1-5, 9

A Reading from the book of Wisdom.

¹But the souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and no torment will ever touch them. ²In the eyes of the foolish they seemed to have died, and their departure was thought to be a disaster, ³and their going from us to be their destruction; but they are at peace. ⁴For though in the sight of others they were punished, their hope is full of immortality. ⁵Having been disciplined a little, they will receive great good, because God tested them and found them worthy of himself; ⁹Those who trust in him will understand truth, and the faithful will abide with him in love, because grace and mercy are upon his holy ones, and he watches over his elect.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People ***Thanks be to God.***

Silence may follow.

Psalm 121

¹I lift up my eyes to the hills —
from where will my help come?

²***My help comes from the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.***

³He will not let your foot be moved;
he who keeps you will not slumber.

⁴***He who keeps Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.***

⁵The LORD is your keeper;
the LORD is your shade at your right hand.

⁶***The sun shall not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.***

⁷The LORD will keep you from all evil;
he will keep your life.

⁸***The LORD will keep
your going out and your coming in
from this time on and forevermore.***

The people sit.

A Reading from Paul's Second letter to the Church in Corinth.

Chapter 4

¹⁶So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. ¹⁷For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, ¹⁸because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal.

Chapter 5

¹For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. ²For in this tent we groan, longing to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling — ³if indeed, when we have taken it off we will not be found naked. ⁴For while we are still in this tent, we groan under our burden, because we wish not to be unclothed but to be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. ⁵He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee. ⁶So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord — ⁷for we walk by faith, not by sight. ⁸Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People ***Thanks be to God.***

Psalm 23

King James Version (Said by all)

The Lord is my shepherd; *

I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; *

he leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul; *

he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his Name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I will fear no evil; *

for thou art with me;

thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies; *

thou anointest my head with oil;

my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, *

and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Hymn #671 – “Amazing Grace”

1 A - maz - ing grace! how sweet the sound, that
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
3 The Lord has prom - ised good to me, his
4 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I
*5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

1 saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but
2 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
3 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
4 have al - rea - dy come; 'tis grace that brought me
5 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

1 now am found, was blind but now I see.
2 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
3 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
4 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
5 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

The melody may be sung in canon at distances of either two or three beats.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

¹Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ²In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to the place where I am going." ⁵Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" ⁶Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sequence Hymn: H-473 "Lift High The Cross"

The musical score is written in G major and 4/4 time. It consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The score is divided into several sections: a Descant, a Refrain, the main body of the hymn, and a Repeat Refrain. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line.

Descant
Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim

Refrain
Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim

till all the world a - dore his sa - cred Name.
till all the world a - dore his sa - cred Name.

Led on their way by this tri - um - phant sign,
Each new - born ser - vant of the Cru - ci - fied
O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

Repeat Refrain
the hosts of God in con - quering ranks com - bine.
bears on the brow the seal of him who died.
as thou hast prom - ised, draw the world to thee.
praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry.

We Respond to the Word of God and Remember George

Homily The Very Rev. Robert E. Shives, II, Rector

THE APOSTLES' CREED (BCP p. 496)

In the assurance of eternal life given at Baptism, let us proclaim our faith and say,

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic Church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting. Amen.

We Remember George by his friends:

Mark Baldwin

Greg Veach

Greg Watchel

THE LORD'S PRAYER

(BCP p. 496)

Our Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy Name,

thy kingdom come,

thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

43 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

For then shalt thou have thy delight in the Almighty. Job 22:26

Joachim Neander, 1680
Trans. by Catherine Winkworth, 1863

LOBE DEN HERREN 14 14 4 7 8
Stralsund Gesangbuch, 1665

1. Praise to the Lord, the Al-might-y, the King of cre-a-
2. Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so won-drous-ly reign-
3. Praise to the Lord, who doth pros-per thy work and de-fend
4. Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a-dore

tion! O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and sal-
eth, Shel-ters thee un-der His wings, yea, so gen-tly sus-
thee; Sure-ly His good-ness and mer-cy here dai-ly at-
Him! All that hath life and breath, come now with prais-es be-

va-tion! All ye who hear, Now to His tem-ple draw
tain-eth! Hast thou not seen How thy de-sires e'er have
tend thee. Pon-der a-new What the Al-might-y can
fore Him! Let the A-men Sound from His peo-ple a-

near; Join me in glad ad-o-ra-tion!
been Grant-ed in what He or-dain-eth?
do, If with His love He be-friend thee.
gain: Glad-ly for aye we a-dore Him. A-men.

GOD THE FATHER

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (BCP p. 496)

For our *brother*, *George*, let us pray to our Lord Jesus Christ who said, “I am Resurrection, and I am Life.”

Lord, you consoled Martha and Mary in their distress; draw near to us who mourn for *George* and dry the tears of those who weep.

People: Hear us, Lord.

You wept at the grave of Lazarus, your friend; comfort us in our sorrow.

Hear us, Lord.

You raised the dead to life; give to our *brother* eternal life.

Hear us, Lord.

You promised paradise to the thief who repented; bring our *brother* to the joys of heaven.

Hear us, Lord.

Our *brother* was washed in Baptism and anointed with the Holy Spirit; give *him* fellowship with all your saints.

Hear us, Lord.

He was nourished with your Body and Blood; grant *him* a place at the table in your heavenly kingdom.

Hear us, Lord.

Comfort us in our sorrows at the death of our *brother, George*; let our faith be our consolation, and eternal life our hope.

Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to you our *brother, George*, who was reborn by water and the Spirit in Holy Baptism. Grant that *his* death may recall to us your victory over death and be an occasion for us to renew our trust in your Father's love. Give us, we pray, the faith to follow where you have led the way; and where you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, to the ages of ages. ***Amen.***

We Commend George into God's Care

THE COMMENDATION (BCP p. 499)

Celebrant: Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with your saints,

People: Where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.

Celebrant: You only are immortal, the creator and maker of mankind; and we are mortal, formed of the earth, and to earth shall we return. For so did you ordain when you created me, saying, "You are dust, and to dust you shall return." All of us go down to the dust; yet even at the grave we make our song: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

People: Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with your saints, where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.

Celebrant: Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant, and Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming. Receive *him* into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light. ***Amen.***

People: Lord, you now have set your servant free to go in peace as you have promised; For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, Whom you have prepared for all the world to see: And the glory of your people Israel. Glory to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit: As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

We Ask for God's Blessings as We Go Forth

Closing Hymn: "Country Roads"

by: John Denver

**Almost heaven, West Virginia
Blue Ridge mountains, Shenandoah river
Life is old there, older than the trees
Younger than the mountains, blowing like a breeze**

**Country roads, take me home
To the place I belong
West Virginia
Mountain mamma, take me home
Country roads**

**All my memories, gather round her
Modest lady, stranger to blue water
Dark and dusty, painted on the sky
Misty taste of moonshine, teardrop in my eye**

**Country roads, take me home
To the place I belong
West Virginia
Mountain mamma, take me home
Country roads**

**I hear her voice in the morning hour she calls me
Radio reminds me of my home far away
Driving down the road I get a feeling
That I should have been home yesterday, yesterday**

**Country roads, take me home
To the place I belong
West Virginia
Mountain mamma, take me home
Country roads**

**Country roads, take me home
To the place I belong
West Virginia
Mountain mamma, take me home
Country roads**

**Take me home, down country roads
Take me home, down country roads**

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL (BCP p. 500)

Celebrant: Go forth into the world in peace; be of good courage; fight the good fight of faith; That you may finish your course with joy. The Peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you, and remain with you forever. *Amen.*

Postlude: I'll Fly Away



I'LL FLY AWAY

by Albert C. Brumby

Some glad morning when this life is o'er,
I'll fly away,
To a home on God's celestial shore,
I'll fly away (I'll fly away).

Chorus

*I'll fly away, Oh Glory
I'll fly away: (in the morning)
When I die, Hallelujah, by and by,
I'll fly away (I'll fly away).*

When the shadows of this life have gone,
I'll fly away,
Like a bird from prison bars has flown,
I'll fly away (I'll fly away)

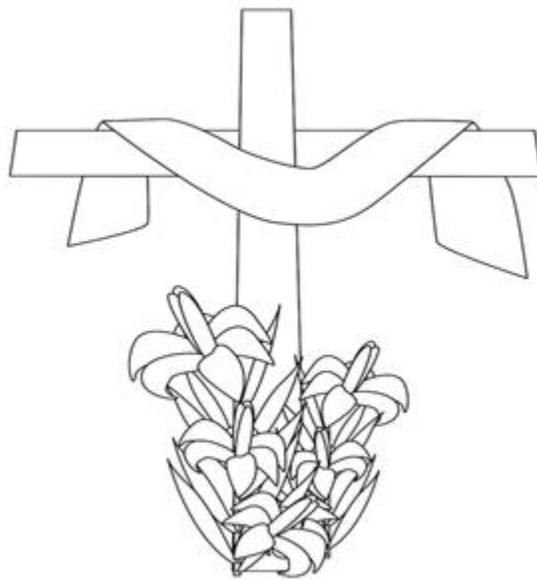
Chorus

Just a few more weary days and then,
I'll fly away:
To a land where joy shall never end,
I'll fly away (I'll fly away)

Deacon: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

The Family invites you to join them for a reception following the service in the Parish Hall hosted by St. Mary's Guild.



Participants in the Service

The Very Rev. Robert E. Shives, II, Rector
Celebrant

The Rev. Nicole Taggart
Deacon

The Rev. Jack Sutor
Commendation
Prayers of the People

Coty Graff
Organist

Greg Janes
Victoria Smith
Lectors

Lynne Steptoe
Crucifer

Jason Stedman
Thurifer

Victoria Smith
Greg Janes
Acolytes

Buzz Poland
Philip Steptoe
JD Wagoner
Ushers

In Memory of George Karos



George Karos

September 10, 1931 - June 01, 2025

George Karos truly made a lasting impact not only on his family but on his church, the city of Martinsburg and our beautiful state of West Virginia. His leadership, compassion, and determination to better his community has left a lasting legacy that will resonate for generations to come. He passed away peacefully in the early morning hours of Sunday, June 1st. He was born and raised in Martinsburg, West Virginia to Greek immigrant parents, Constantine Skartalias, later named Gus Karos and Mary Stypsianos, who married in 1926 as a result of an arranged marriage by members of the large Greek community in Martinsburg. On September 10, 1931, they welcomed Mr. Karos to the family after having previously lost their 8-month-old daughter to pneumonia. His father, Gus, owned a local hat cleaning and shoeshine business but sadly he passed of pneumonia when Mr. Karos was only eight. At that time, the owner of Patterson's Drug Store, Mr. James Patterson, took him under his wing and was a major influence on Mr. Karos' life. Mr. Karos swept floors in the pharmacy, rode his bike to deliver prescriptions after school and worked for tips at the local cab stand. He worked his way up through the drug store starting in the soda fountain and then to the cosmetics counter and then as a helper in the pharmacy. Gus and Mary's story, as well as part of Mr. Karos, is captured in one of the Character Corridor panels at the For the Kids, by George Children's Museum at the Caperton Train Station in Martinsburg. Mr. Karos' mother was illiterate and faced many challenges raising her young son in Martinsburg. Despite her challenges, she fought hard to make sure her son had a bright future refusing to take her son back to Greece to family. During the day, she worked as a short order cook and at night cleaned men's hats. Mr. Karos and his Mother both worked hard and saved money so that Mr. Karos could attend college. "... my mother made me give her my paycheck and she saved my paycheck. Without her saving my paycheck and the GI Bill I wouldn't have made it" Mr. Karos once recalled. Mr. Karos graduated from Martinsburg High School in 1949 where he played point guard for the basketball team earning the nickname "Squeak," because his athletic shoes would "squeak" as he came to a stop on the other end of the court. He was inducted into the Martinsburg High School Hall of Fame for his basketball career in 2018. He attended Shepherd University before serving in the Navy from 1951-1955. In the U.S. Navy, he served as in the Hospital Corps hospital at Bethesda Naval Hospital in Maryland and at Quantico Marine Corps Base in Virginia. He served as a physical therapist. He often recounted the story of an admiral's son who started physical therapy, bedridden. After years of therapy by Mr. Karos, that patient surprised him during his leave party and walked to him with open arms in gratitude for all Mr. Karos had to done to help him walk again. That achievement became one of Mr. Karos' proudest professional moments. After 4 years in the U.S. Navy, Mr. Karos graduated from the Medical College of Virginia, School of Pharmacy in Richmond Virginia in 1959. After graduating from Pharmacy school, he returned to work at Patterson's Drug Store as a pharmacist continuing under guidance from Mr. Patterson who had opened the drug store at 134 S. Queen St. on October 19, 1926. Mr. Karos worked at Patterson's and eventually purchased the store running the downtown and Inwood locations until his retirement at the age of 83 in 2015, after nearly 89

years of continuous operation. Patterson's became one of downtown Martinsburg's most cherished landmarks. Throughout the years, Mayor Karos has been actively involved in Trinity Episcopal Church Martinsburg, where he served in various manners including usher, Senior Warden and several search call committees calling several priests to the Martinsburg parish who later became Bishops. He was a dedicated member of the parish attending morning prayer services each Wednesday and Sunday. He was also involved in numerous community organizations, including Martinsburg-Berkeley County Chamber of Commerce, Rotary International, Jay-Cees and later the Exhauster Roosters, B.P.O.E. Elks Club, Martinsburg Masonic Temple, and Martinsburg Country Club that later became known at Stonebriar Country Club. In his "free time", Mr. Karos loved to play golf. He received numerous professional awards and recognitions. He was President of the West Virginia Board of Pharmacy, a recipient of the "West Virginia A.H. Robbins' Award for Outstanding Service to the Community and to Pharmacies in West Virginia", the "West Virginia School of Pharmacy Alumnus Award", the "C. Leslie Golliday Award for Small Businessman of the Year", "Man of the Year" by the Martinsburg-Berkeley County Chamber of Commerce, "Who's Who in West Virginia Business" from the State Journal, "The Distinguished Citizen Award" and Lifetime Member of the B.P.O.E., the "Paul Harris Fellow Award for Humanity" from the Martinsburg International Rotary Club and the "Sam Walton Wal-Mart Business Leadership Award for Service to the Customer". He once stated that "helping people has given me a great deal of satisfaction. You can see the link between sickness and someone recovering. People will tell you that they wouldn't have improved without you. You can tell how appreciative they are. And you can see the results within days." These accolades are just a few that acknowledged his devotion to his work and the community. Among his many other endeavors, Mr. Karos was elected as City Councilman at Large in June 1974 and continuously served the City of Martinsburg until he was elected Mayor in 2000. Mayor Karos served this City as Mayor until he decided not to run for re-election in 2020. Mayor Karos proudly worked on the extension of North Raleigh Street, from Race Street to Edwin Miller Boulevard, the City's Caperton Train Station project, redesign and aesthetic improvements to Town Square, construction of water and wastewater treatment plants, and various economic development projects, including the Foxcroft Avenue commercial corridor, North Raleigh Street TIF District, an annexation of 750 acres on the west side of Interstate 81 for commercial and residential development, and the new Martinsburg Police Department and Municipal Court building to name a few. A community room in the police and court building has been named in Mr. Karos' honor. During his more than 40 years of service to the City of Martinsburg, Mr. Karos received "Mayor of the Year" Award from the West Virginia Municipal League, the "Public Official of the Year" Award from Main Street Martinsburg, as well as many other awards and acknowledgements. Put simply, he had a true passion for his community and dedicated his life to those he served to be only exceeded but his love of God and family. Mr. Karos was a devoted family man. He married Sophia Michael Vergis in 1959, his first love. They had two children, Maria "KiKi" Karos and George Karos whom he loved dearly. After Sophia passed away in 1988, he met and fell in love with Renee Burkhart whom he was married to for 34 years. They shared a love of travel and golf. He often bragged about how Renee could outdrive him off the tee box. "Keep it in the short grass!" he would often say. She was devoted to him and tended to his care until his passing. The family's loss is only softened by their gratitude of having had such a wonderful man in their lives for so long. He was a true blessing. Mr. Karos is survived by his wife Moncie Renee Rivera Karos, his daughter KiKi and her husband, John Newby, bonus grandchildren Julia and Carson Newby, Dallas, Texas, his son George Karos, Easton, Maryland, Natalie Householder and her husband, Jacob Householder and grandchildren, Sedic Martinez and Makenzie Householder, all of Martinsburg, WV, Alicia Lovett and fiancé, Clarke Gordon of North Carolina, and granddaughter Cassidy Tapp and great granddaughter Allison Mahr of Asburn, VA.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions should be made to Karos Family Memorial Fund, established in 2006 for tuition grants to Berkeley County residents who have been accepted by and plan to attend a college or university in West Virginia for pharmacy.