



## Lenore Carlson-Kelly

November 6, 2005

### "Lenore Carlson-Kelly"

BALTIMORE, Md. - Lenore Rae Carlson-Kelly, 60, of 12221 Etchison Road, Ellicott City, Md., died Sunday, Nov. 6, 2005, at Johns Hopkins Medical Center in Baltimore.

She was born March 13, 1945, in Iron Mountain, the daughter of the late Ella M. Carlson Mette and Nobel Carlson and the stepdaughter of W. Glenn Mette. She married William Kelly on Nov. 27, 1984, in Williamsburg, Va.

Lenore was raised in Kingsford and graduated from Kingsford High School in 1963. She graduated from Michigan State University with a bachelor of arts degree in journalism in 1967 and began a career with the Social Security Administration in the fall of that year.

In 1977, she transferred to the disability program and remained with that program for the rest of her career, assuming positions of increasing responsibility. In 1994, Lenore was appointed director of the division responsible for oversight, with an annual budget of \$1.4 billion that is allocated to the states and federal regional offices for the administration of the disability program.

In July 1998, she became the acting deputy associate commissioner for the Office of Disability and a year later was appointed to the Senior Executive Service and permanently assigned as the deputy associate commissioner for the Office of Disability. Lenore was made the acting associate commissioner for the Office of Disability in June 2002, and at the time of her death, she was

associate commissioner for Disability Determinations.

Lenore is survived by her husband, Bill and her sister and brother-in-law, Annette and Paul Santoni. She also leaves her three very special nieces, Maria Santoni, Kathryn (Chad) Menza, and Kristina (Scott) Oswald. Lenore is also survived by her uncle and aunt, Al and Dottie Carlson of Sarasota, Fla., her aunts, Mildred Brans and Jeanne Nelson of Iron Mountain, and several cousins and close friends.

Funeral services will be held at 5:30 p.m. on Friday at the First Presbyterian Church in Kingsford. Rev. Michael March will officiate.

Burial will be in Cemetery Park.

Pallbearers include Gerald F. Riley, Dennis Engquist, Robert Wedin, Albert Santoni, Steve Lewis, Richard Celello, and John Daley.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to Northwoods Airlifeline in her memory.

Condolences may be expressed to the family of Lenore Carlson-Kelly online at [www.ernashfuneralhomes.com](http://www.ernashfuneralhomes.com).

The family has entrusted the Erickson-Rochon & Nash Funeral Home of Iron Mountain with the funeral arrangements.

# Tribute Wall

KH

“ *In my early years with Social Security Lenore was a huge influence on me and inspired me to move on in my career. She was an unusually talented person in that she could talk about the most serious of matters with great understanding and intellect---and still find a way to inject humor into it. She reminded us all of our humanity. I also loved her voice---it had warmth and resonance. Thank you, Lenore.*

*Kathy Hanson*

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**Kathryn Hanson** - November 22, 2005 at 12:00 AM

PH

“ *I worked with Lenore on the Flivver Flash when she was editor. She was a terrific friend and a wonderful person. While I have not seen her for some number of years, I will always remember her sense of humor, incredible heart and wonderful times we shared.*

*My deepest sympathies to Bill, Nettie, and her family.*

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**Phyllis Haug Harding** - November 20, 2005 at 12:00 AM

BV

“ *My wife, Anne, and I were shocked to hear of Lenore's passing. We both worked for Lenore over the last several years and consider it an honor and pleasure to have worked for such a wonderful individual. Are condolences to her family, she will be missed.*

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**Bobby Vollmer** - November 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

SR

“ I was sadden to learn of Lenore's passing. Bill, my prayers and thoughts are with you and her family. She will be missed.

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**Susie Rudolph** - November 17, 2005 at 12:00 AM

AE

“ I did not know Lenore, but like Hurricane Katrina, Rita, and other devastations, we are all one, when it comes to SSA employees.

*May God continue to bless you and your family, during this difficult time.*

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**A fellow SSA employee** - November 16, 2005 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ I enjoyed working with Lenore during her early days with SSA in Chicago. She was bright, enthusiastic, and considerate; an outstanding government employee. She will be sorely missed.

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**Judy Milliman** - November 15, 2005 at 12:00 AM

SD

“ To Bill and Family: I am retired but had the privilege of working with Lenore on disability issues for the last few years of my career. I cannot think of anyone with more knowledge, dedication and sincere concern for the disability program and its beneficiaries. She demonstrated the best in what it means to be a career civil servant and was recognized nationally for her knowledge skills and ability but more importantly for her friendship. She will be missed by all of you as well as many SSA/DDS folks. With sincere sympathy, Sue Davis

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**Sue Davis** - November 14, 2005 at 12:00 AM

KT

“ I will certainly miss Lenore at the DDS Forums. She was like the mother hen making sure everyone got to the room for their meeting on time. I wish all her family fond memories of a very special lady. SSA and the DDS community will miss her.

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**Kathi Thompson** - November 14, 2005 at 12:00 AM

MG

“ During my career with the Wisconsin DDS I had the privilege on several occasions to meet with and spend time with Lenore. A more dedicated and sincere public employee would be difficult to find. More importantly, though, Lenore was such a kind, gracious and warm human being that I so looked forward to events when I would be able to see her again. I'll never forget the look on her face during one such trip when I gave her a Brett Favre beanie-baby as a gift from one Packer diehard to another. You would have sworn I gave her a million dollars from her reaction. My sincerest condolences to her family and friends -- it was a privilege to know her.

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**Mike Gourlie** - November 11, 2005 at 12:00 AM

ML

“ My sincere sympathy goes out to all of you. I had a great friendship with Lenore and her family during high school, and although we had not seen each other in years, I was saddened to her of her passing. All of her family will be in my thoughts and prayers. Margo (Margaret) Samsa Lynn.

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**Margaret Samsa Lynn** - November 11, 2005 at 12:00 AM

TH

“ My thoughts and prayers are with you Nettie and your family. I graduated with Lenore, and remember her as always having a smile on her face and helping others when she could. We will miss her.

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**Terese Langsford Higgins** - November 11, 2005 at 12:00 AM

PC

“ Lenore was a dedicated, caring and hardworking government employee. I have known and worked with her for many years. She was always professional and had time to discuss issues I may have had. I have always admired her knowledge about almost any subject about the DDS and, that at her senior executive level, she could converse about the budget or workloads or know about so many people across the country. She seemed to truly love what she did. She will be missed but remembered always as the face of the DDS'. My deepest sympathy to the family.

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**Patricia A. Carey** - November 10, 2005 at 12:00 AM

CW

“ Lenore will be greatly missed by all of us in the DDS world. God Bless You.

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**Connie Wold** - November 10, 2005 at 12:00 AM

TK

“ I only knew Lenore from a few telephone contacts, but she was a most dedicated and kind person. She will be missed by all of us in SSA and beyond. Timothy J. Kennedy, Ohio DDS, OADE

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**Timothy Kennedy** - November 10, 2005 at 12:00 AM

AE

“ To the family of Lenore, I send my condolences and pray that in this difficult time you find comfort in each other and warm memories of Lenore.

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**A fellow SSA employee** - November 10, 2005 at 12:00 AM

VW

“ I have many fond memories of growing up with Lenore, and even if we have not seen each other in many years, those memories live in our hearts.

*Lenore was a great friend, and I will remember her always, and I know that her family will greatly miss her loving ways.*

*My sincere condolences and prayers are with you at this time of loss.*

*Valeria Nowak Weinert*

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**Valeria Nowak Weinert** - November 09, 2005 at 12:00 AM