

# Karen Uhlenbeck

By Mrs. Heilmann

Karen was born in Cleveland, Ohio, on August 24, 1942. Her father was an engineer, and her mother was an artist. As a child, she loved to read and had a special interest in science. She really didn't care that much for math.

$$a^2 + b^2 = c^2$$



## Education

University of Michigan - BS in Mathematics in 1964

Brandeis University - MS in Mathematics in 1966

Brandeis University - PhD in Mathematics in 1968

## Teaching Career

Massachusetts Institute of Technology - 1968-69

University of California, Berkeley - 1969-1971

University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana - 1971-1976

University of Illinois, Chicago - 1976-1988

University of Texas - 1988 to present

## Contributions to Mathematics

Karen Uhlenbeck is a leading expert on partial differential equations, which are used to look at shapes in space. Her work provided analytic tools to use instantons as an effective geometric tool. Karen has been a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences since 1985 and was elected to the National Academy of Science in 1986.