



Donna Marie Darling

MAY 15, 1930 - JAN 28, 2026



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Donna Marie Darling

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Donna Marie Darling passed away peacefully at home on January 28, 2026, surrounded by her children. Donna was born May 15, 1930, to Hugh and Marie Norton. Donna lived in Elkhart, Ind., in her early years, where she met her husband, Web, the love of her life. In 1962, Web and Donna left Indiana to make their family home on Hope Street in Fayetteville, where they lived their remaining years.

Donna was predeceased by her parents; and husband.

She is survived by her children, Cheryl Mitchell, Web Darling, Jr., and Michael Darling; grandchildren, Michael, Hilary, Anna, Melanie, and David.

Donna enjoyed many years teaching the dental assisting class at the West Campus of Fayetteville High School. Donna loved and admired all things in nature, especially birds and dragonflies. As an enthusiast of gardening, she anticipated the blooming of wildflowers in her yard each spring and the turning of colors in the fall. As an avid walker, she often could be seen circling the mountain on long walks with her beloved dogs. To everyone who came to know Donna, she was a thoughtful and trusted friend. She was a pillar in the community in her own subtle but effective and gracious way. Donna's belief in faith, hope, love, and mercy was steadfast. Her love and care for family and friends will endure in the afterglow of her life.

The family wishes to express their deep gratitude for the nurses and aides of Elite Hospice who cared for Donna in the waning days of her life.

A memorial service will be held at Saint Paul's Episcopal Church on Friday, February 6, 2026, at 1 p.m. In lieu of flowers, the family encourages donations to Saint Paul's Episcopal Church. Cremation arrangements are under the direction of Moore's Chapel in Fayetteville.

To place an online tribute, please visit www.bernafuneralhomes.com




Events


Donna Marie Darling

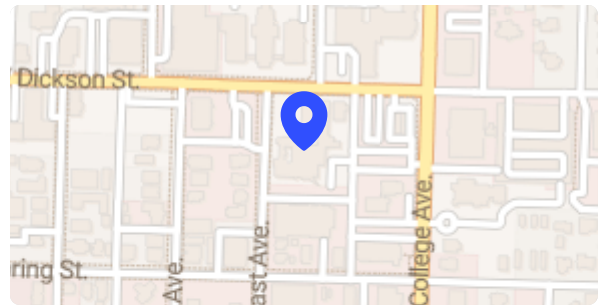
MAY 15, 1930 - JAN 28, 2026

Memorial Service

 **Friday**, February 6, 2026

 1:00 PM CT

 **St. Paul's Episcopal Church**
224 N East Ave, Fayetteville AR 72701





Tribute Wall

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GL

Glenda Lee posted:

Dear Darling Family, Donna Darling was my inspiration. Donna and Mrs. Danner (Donna as well) showed care and compassion to everyone who entered the dental clinic at West Campus whether you were patient, student, or dentist, you came away better for the experience. I am an alumnus from the early 1980's and had the wonderful blessing of being Donna's successor in the dental clinic. Everything that I have done and accomplished in my professional career can be credited to Donna Darling. Donna Darling and Donna Danner were the teachers who influenced my teaching, my career choice before I became a teacher and everything dental that has shaped my life. Drop a small stone in the water's calm, Watch the rings spread, soft and wide, A simple act, a healing balm, Touching far-off places, side by side. Each gentle ripple, a kindness shared, Flowing onward, through time and space, Proving that someone truly cared, Leaving a blessing in this place. Your words of cheer, a fleeting sound, Like tiny waves that grow and rise, Where sadness dwelt, now joy is found, Reflected in another's eyes. For every action, no matter small, Creates a wave that will not end, A gentle echo, a loving call, The quiet influence of a friend. So stir the waters with gentle deeds, Let love and hope begin to flow, Planting kindness's fertile seeds, And watch the distant ripples grow. May the ripples from Donna's life continue for all who were blessed to know her. Glenda Tunstill Lee NWACC Dental Assisting Program Director

February 6 at 1:57 PM

GY

Geniece Yates posted:

Ms Darling, as I always knew her, was a fast walker and a lovely neighbor. She was fun to visit with especially about plants. She inspired me to walk the 'hood, and I still do all these years later. Ms. Darling, bless her, will be sorely missed.

February 3 at 11:41 AM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Donna by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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