



Routh Ann Yarbrough

DEC 4, 1952 - FEB 17, 2026



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Routh Ann Yarbrough

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Routh Ann Yarbrough, 73 of Fayetteville, AR, passed away on February 17, 2026, at the Willard Walker Hospice House in Fayetteville, AR. She was born December 4, 1952, in Springfield, MO, to Donald Raney and Carolyn (Wagley) Raney.

She was a retired registrar for Fayetteville High School and a member of Cross Church Springdale.

Routh Ann had several jobs in her life, all centered around serving people, often by keeping them in line, even when they didn't know it. She worked with the U of A housing department, helping college students feel at home at Reid Hall, a job she loved for many years. She worked in the Fayetteville resource library, ordering and organizing every library book that came into the school system. She ended her working career as the registrar for Fayetteville High School, keeping track of hundreds of students as they entered the doors of the High School.

She grew up in the First United Methodist Church of Harrison and attended Central United Methodist Church in Fayetteville for most of her adult life. In 2015, she became a member at Cross Church of Springdale where she was baptized. She had a close friendship with her Sunday School teachers, Larry and Becky Chapman, who frequently checked in on her throughout her last few years of life.

Routh Ann was a woman born in the wrong time period. A better athlete than most boys, she unfortunately grew up in a time when women's sports did not exist. Many stories have been told of football games in the front yard with her three older brothers and a distinct ponytail sticking out of one helmet.

But she used her love for sports to coach the inaugural 3-3 High School girls basketball team in Alpena, AR, after graduating from college.



Obituary

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She played competitive slow-pitch softball for decades, playing well into her 40s. She was the pitcher who could drop the ball on a dime, and she had her signature 'tommy hawk' swing at the plate. Softball was a family affair with her son, Kyle, keeping books and running bat boy, and her daughter, Keely, growing from a pinch runner into playing left field.

She was a lover of the beach, dip net always in hand, forever in search of the next sand dollar. The beach meant family to her. For many years, her brothers and their families would all meet in Gulf Shores to spend a week together, and it was the highlight of her year.

If there was one thing to know about Routh Ann, it was her love for Dalmatian dogs. She grew up with Dalmatians and carried that love forward to her own family. The Yarbroughs always had a Dalmatian dog, if not two, at any given point in time.

Later in life, she started riding Harley Davidson motorcycles and found a community with the Ladies of Harley group here in Northwest Arkansas.

Her best role in life, though, was that of being a grandmother, and it was sadly cut too short. However, her time with her grandkids was memorable as they frequently reminisce about milkshakes from Braums, picnics at Gulley Park, and visits to Silver Dollar City.

She is survived by her daughter, Keely Spicer and her husband Rick of Fayetteville, AR; one son Kyle Yarbrough and his wife, Natalie of Fayetteville, AR; three brothers, George (Brenda) Pickard of Maryville, TN; Joe (Vicky) Pickard of Flower Mound, TX; Paul (Cathy) Raney of Searcy, AR; and four grandchildren, Rylan and Laurel Spicer, and Jaxon and Deeks Yarbrough.

A Celebration of her Life will be held February 28, 2026 at 11:00am at Nelson-Berna Funeral Home in Fayetteville with Rev. Larry Chapman officiating.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to

Cash app \$Routhann

Venmo @Keely-Spicer



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All proceeds will go to Clear Creek Memory Center staff as a thank you for their care over the years. If not then please donate to your local church or animal shelter on her behalf.



Events


Routh Ann Yarbrough

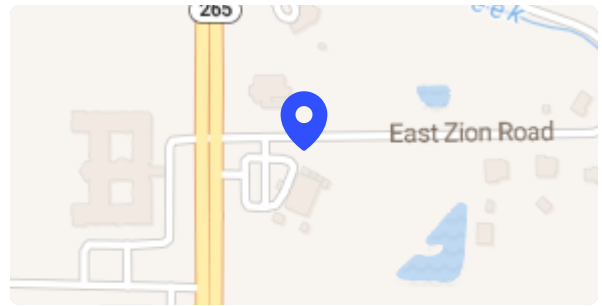
DEC 4, 1952 - FEB 17, 2026

Memorial Service

 **Saturday**, February 28, 2026

 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM CT

 **Nelson-Berna of Fayetteville**
4520 N. Crossover Rd., Fayetteville AR 72703





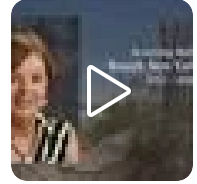
Tribute Wall

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Berna Funeral Homes shared a **Video**.



February 20 at 10:07 AM



Carol Borgstadt posted:

Routh Ann and I started at FHS in the counseling office at the same time, fall of 2011. She is a wonderful part of my memories of that time. We worked together for 4 years and she was always a friendly face, helpful, encouraging and beautifully efficient and organized. I know her family will miss her warmth and love.

February 27 at 4:41 PM



The Rhea Lana'S Leadership Team sent a Serenity Wreath to the Yarbrough family.



February 27 at 4:32 PM



The Rhea Lana'S Leadership Team planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Routh.



February 27 at 4:32 PM



Anonymous planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Routh.



February 27 at 3:12 PM



Anonymous sent a Medium Dish Garden to the Yarbrough family.



February 27 at 2:08 PM



Tribute Wall

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Anonymous planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Routh.

February 27 at 2:08 PM



J.C. Family sent a Gracious Lavender Basket to the Yarbrough family.

February 25 at 5:22 PM



J.C. Family planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Routh.

February 25 at 5:22 PM



Anonymous sent a Basket Full of Wishes to the Yarbrough family.

February 25 at 1:02 PM



Betty Burge posted:

I played softball with Routh Ann for some years What a great gal and some people may not know this but her nickname was Peaches She was a classy lady. A dry sense of humor.I was coaching at Harrison and she was at Alpena. We played and she beat....a major upset. The next day she was elected mayor of Alpena. lol. The last time I saw Routh Ann she came to watch my team play at Farmington (before Easton). Was so dang good to see herSo glad she came. Prayers, blessings, and comfort to the family

February 24 at 12:59 PM



Anonymous sent a Florist Choice Bouquet to the Yarbrough family.

February 24 at 11:42 AM





Tribute Wall

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Lindsey Management Company sent a Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet to the Yarbrough family.



February 23 at 11:12 AM



Cindy Marsh posted:

I was a counselor at Fayetteville High School. I worked with Routh Ann right before she retired. I loved her. We teased her and called her "rough Ann" because she didn't take any "stuff" from anyone...but she was always about doing what was right for the students and that was why she was so awesome. She will be greatly missed.

February 21 at 11:44 AM



Beverly Unwer posted:

I have so many memories of when we were in elementary school. I remember spending many nights with her. Her dad never called me anything but Snookums. Then there were the big piles of leaves in the fall. They would be raked (by boys I'm sure) and then we would jump into them over and over. So much fun. Beverly May Unwer

February 21 at 9:47 AM



John Hudson shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

Routh Ann touched many lives and we will miss her. ❤️❤️❤️



February 20 at 10:26 PM



David Sanchez posted:

Great lady of faith I had a chance to meet in Springfield, Mo. My opportunity came when I had the privilege of traveling with a large automotive parts company for some management training. I had many phone conversations with Ruth Ann over our lengthy careers together with this company. I clearly remember the "RED" curly locks when I had my opportunity to meet her person. Such a joyful, kindhearted and lovely woman who guided me always in the right directions with my many questions I had for her. Never steered me in the wrong direction. Awesome lady! Until we meet again "RED" God Bless the family and I pray for peace , joy and strength for you all. Our condolences with much careDavid

February 20 at 3:55 PM



Media

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Berna Funeral Homes shared a Video.

February 20 at 10:07 AM





Media

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John Hudson shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

February 20 at 10:26 PM





Memories only last if you share them

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



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