



## Barbara Burke Patton

November 18, 1947 - August 16, 2025

Mrs. Barbara Burke Patton, 77, of Alabama, formerly of Wynne, Arkansas, passed away on Saturday, August 16, 2025, in Alabama. Barbara was born on November 18, 1947, to Frances and Clyde Burke in Memphis. She was an educator at Wynne Public Schools for over 33 years, and a devout believer in God and in other people. Barbara was devoted to her church, her family, and her “special friends” in the community, which were anyone who needed a ride to the doctor, a little bit of extra encouragement, or a confidence booster. In her final year, Barbara lived in Auburn, Alabama, surrounded by her beloved grandchildren, dogs, grand-dogs, and her church choir. Barbara is survived by her husband, Earl Patton of Alabama; her children, Allison Patton of Conway, Arkansas, and Justin and Kris Patton of Auburn, Alabama; her grandchildren, Marvin and Dorothy Patton; hundreds of cherished former students; and one surly little lapdog named Gizmo. A celebration of life will be held at Kernodle Funeral Home in Wynne Arkansas on Sunday, September 14, 2025, at 2 PM with burial in Cogbill Cemetery. In lieu of flowers donations can be provided to Auburn United Methodist Church, Wynne Friends of Animals, or to any worthy cause or charity of preference, Auburn United Methodist Church <https://aumc.net/give/> or Wynne Friends of the Animals <https://wynnefoa.weebly.com>.

# Cemetery Details

## Cogbill Cemetery

Airpark Rd  
Wynne, AR 72396

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

SEP 14. 2:00 PM (CT)

Kernodle Funeral Home  
315-325 E. Union Avenue  
Wynne, AR 72396  
(870) 238-2323  
kernodlefuneralhome@gmail.com  
<https://www.kernodlefh.com/>

## Interment

SEP 14 (CT)

Cogbill Cemetery  
Airpark Rd  
Wynne, AR 72396

# Tribute Wall



“ I could not have had a better second grade teacher than Ms. Barbara Patton. It is surreal that we lost both her and Ms. Susan Gilbert in the same year. Both of these teachers impacted in my life greatly, and I was introduced to both of them in the second grade. In fact, Ms. Patton recommended me to Ms. Gilbert’s gifted and talented program. There was something very special about that second grade hall which also included their fellow teacher, Ms. Lutricia Richardson, who preceded them in death, and although I did not have her as a teacher in the classroom, she was a member of the church where my father pastored. All three of these women had such a profound effect in my life.

I will never forget Ms. Patton. both she and Ms. Gilbert are largely responsible for me becoming a writer. It was Ms. Patton who required everyone in our second grade class to keep a journal, and it was largely because of my writings in that journal that she introduced me to Ms. Gilbert when she recommended me to gifted and talented program ran by Ms. Gilbert, which I stayed in all the way through my senior year of high school. I ended up writing for politicians, authoring books, and penning award-winning movie screenplays. Teachers are so important, and I hit the jackpot in the second grade. Ms. Patton literally changed the trajectory of my life. That is not an exaggeration.

Ms. Patton kept up with me for years all the way through adulthood, and each time we communicated, she told me that she was proud of me. I will never forget our last conversation. She was pleasant as usual with that beautiful spirit that she always showed to everybody. Her words always impacted me so much because I knew they weren’t empty. She actually meant them.

My condolences to her family. I hope that all of you know just how much we loved Ms. Barabara Patton, and I know you will take comfort with the understanding that she is in the presence of our loving Savior. All of us her loved Ms. Patton will miss her. She was a real one.

**Princella Smith** - September 14, 2025 at 11:13 AM

LY

“ Prayers for y'all she was a wonderful lady the Lynaugh's.



**Lynaugh's** - September 13, 2025 at 01:30 AM

DR

“ I am sad to hear of Barbara's passing. I'd known her for many years and had no idea she had passed. My sympathies to here family and friends in Wynne.

**Dennis Rogers** - September 12, 2025 at 02:14 PM

DM

“ Barbara was a sweet, loving and caring lady! She always made me feel loved when our paths crossed!  
It was my pleasure to attend my sister's class reunion at Barbara and Earl's house. They went all out to prepare for the reunion! They welcomed me with open arms! My heart goes out to Earl, Justin, Allison, Marvin, Dorothy and all of the family. May the days ahead be filled with precious memories of the wonderful wife, mother, grandmother and friend that she was!

**Donna McFadden** - September 09, 2025 at 09:55 AM

EW

“ Eugene Warren lit a candle in memory of Barbara Patton



Eugene Warren - August 28, 2025 at 12:43 AM

KC

“ Mrs. Patton was a wonderful lady. She loved God, her family and friends. She was an educator who taught many children and loved teaching children to reach their dreams and potential to become successful. She will always be remembered as a loving and caring mother to her family. She loved her close friends as well and would always be there for them .



Katharine Callahan - August 25, 2025 at 01:06 AM

AB

“ My condolences to the family of Mrs. Barbara Patton. She was my fifth grade teacher at Cherry Valley Elementary School and became my second grade colleague at Wynne Primary School. She was my son’s second grade teacher as well. She was my favorite teacher.



Angela Caddell Baxter - August 23, 2025 at 11:41 PM

KW

“ What a lovely person Barbara was growing up. She was best friends with my cousin Martha and I learned many things being around them. Rest in Peace  
Love, Kay Kernodle Wittenberg ❤️

Kay Wittenberg - August 23, 2025 at 11:21 AM

AB

“ While attending ASU to become a teacher , I had to write an essay about my favorite teacher. It was Ms. Patton. She was my fifth grade teacher at Cherry Valley Elementary. I’ll never forget the Hee Haw Show we had. I played a real washboard in the Hee Haw Band. I began my teaching career in Wynne with Ms. Patton as my second grade colleague until her retirement. She was also my son Lamar’s second grade teacher. She was always concerned about others and wanted to help any way she could ... she truly had a servant’s heart. I will always treasure the last photo I took with her at her moving away celebration July 30, 2024 at The Merriman downtown.

Angela Caddell Baxter  
Second Grade Teacher  
Wynne Primary School

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Angela Caddell Baxter - August 22, 2025 at 10:31 PM

JC

“ Barbara and I had some great years teaching 2nd grade side by side at Wynne Primary School! She was such a good teacher! Her kids loved her! But I met her years before that when I first moved to Arkansas! Earl and my late husband, Jerry Milam, were good friends. i haven't seen her in several years since I moved to Greers Ferry Lake and then she and Earl moved to Alabama! I know she made a world of new friends there! She was such a sweet, caring person! She will be missed by many! My thoughts and prayers are with the family! Love you all!

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Judy Milam Carter - August 22, 2025 at 05:34 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Barbara Burke Patton.*



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August 22, 2025 at 02:43 PM



“ *Mrs. Patton,  
No wonder when we saw each other at Walmart back in the Spring,  
we talked about everything under the sun, remembering old times of  
days gone bye. Thanks for being my oldest son second grade  
teacher.*

*RIP,  
Linda Stegall*

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**Linda Stegall** - August 22, 2025 at 11:14 AM



“ *Barbara was a friend that began in childhood & lasted even after  
she moved.  
That's a testament to her kindness & personality. She made friends  
for a lifetime with everyone she met.  
If there was an angel on earth Barbara was ours.*

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**Tanya Kinman Baldwin** - August 22, 2025 at 09:41 AM



“ *Such a precious lady always with a smile. We had the privilege to  
have them live next door to us for a short time. Many times spent  
talking in the yard sharing our concerns and lots of laughs. She will  
forever be missed. Love and prayers for her dear family.*

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**Debbie Fuzzell** - August 22, 2025 at 08:21 AM

PM

“ I am so sorry at your loss of Barbara. She was a special woman and friend to so many. A wonderful classmate all through the Wynne school years. I will miss her always smiling friendly face.

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**Paulette Cowan Myers** - August 22, 2025 at 02:55 AM

SB

“ I was room mother for Barbara when my son, who is 37 now, was in 2nd grade and I also worked with her at Wynne Primary School. We formed a bond that year and a friendship that remained for the last 29 years! I remember several things about Barbara: her laugh, her care of others, and how she always made you feel that she was 100% engrossed in what you were saying to her, but mostly I remember that she took a little boy who lacked confidence and always chose to solve a problem a different way and she taught him that it was ok to think outside the box! She increased his confidence and his belief in himself! Her interest in his life followed him for the next 29 years too-all the way to Afghanistan and back! She knew how to throw a heck of a party on holidays too that all of her students enjoyed. She will be greatly missed, but her legacy will live on in the many lives that she touched!

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**Sherry Breckenridge** - August 22, 2025 at 01:06 AM

LC

“ Ms Barbara was friends with my parents for many years. Ms Barbara was like an angel to me during the last few years of my parents lives. Ms Barbara would help me out by taking them to Dr appointments when I was unable to take off work or drive 5 hours to get them. Whenever she was coming to visit no matter where it was she would call ahead and ask what could she bring me. When she found out I liked Sonic Cokes and pretzel twist she would surprise me with a snack. Ms Barbara and my Dad were members of the FUMC choir. Ms. Sue Ellen and Ms Barbara come through for my Dad's services by arranging what few members of the choir to perform a song special to him and myself. As a young girl Ms Barbara was in charge of the Acrolites and she had recruited me. I was very nervous and she knew that so she left the choir room to come find me giving me the encouragement I needed to survive. I am very sorry for your loss. I hope Mr Earl will recover quickly. I will always cherish my relationship with Ms Barbara. Speaking for the Baldwin Family using Ruyal's words Ms Barbara and Mr Earl Patton were two of a few friends of 50 plus years that you just don't find in this world now days.



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**Lynn Baldwin Craft** - August 21, 2025 at 09:56 PM